

Freed journalist leaves Kabul today

PARIS (AP) — Jacques Abouchar, the French Television journalist sentenced to 18 years imprisonment in Afghanistan, is expected to be returned to France on Saturday, the office of socialist deputy Yves Tavernier reported Friday. Mr. Tavernier, the deputy who heads the National Assembly's study group on Afghan questions, was scheduled to leave Friday night for Kabul aboard a special plane to pick up Mr. Abouchar and bring him home. Mr. Abouchar, 53, was captured Sept. 17 when the Afghan guerrilla group with which he was travelling was ambushed by Soviet and Afghan troops. On Oct. 20, he was sentenced to 18 years in prison for illegal entry into Afghanistan. The case caused an uproar in France and the sentencing was unanimously condemned. On Thursday, the official Afghan news agency announced that President Babrak Karmal had authorised Mr. Abouchar's release "despite the gravity of the crime he committed."

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King, Armacost confer

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday reviewed with the visiting U.S. Under-Secretary of State, Michael Armacost, the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and Jordan's views vis-a-vis the Middle East conflict. Present at the audience with the King was His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and several senior officials, according to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra. Mr. Armacost came here from Israel in the course of a 10-day tour of the region, the first since being appointed to his post in May. Mr. Armacost was due to visit Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Qasem returns after eye surgery

AMMAN (J.T.) — Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem Thursday returned home from the United States, where he underwent a minor eye surgery.

Alallah expected to be named parliament secretary general

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministry of Interior Under-Secretary Ahmad Alallah is expected to be appointed as secretary general of parliament in succession to Yahya Al Droubi, who has been retired at his request, according to a report in Al-Dustour Arabic daily newspaper. The paper also said that other candidates within the Ministry of Interior are expected to take place. The transfers, the paper added, will include Amman Governor Yehya Al Mousili who is expected to take the post of Minister of Interior, and Under-Secretary, Governor of Irbid Turki Al Hammad, expected to replace Mr. Mousili as governor of Amman, while Mohammad Ali Al Amayeh is expected to be appointed as Governor of Irbid. The Jordan Times has learnt that Zaid Al-Dabbas is expected to be appointed as Governor of Ma'an in succession to Hassan Abu Abdou who will be transferred to the Interior Ministry. Alallah is expected to retire Friday, the cabinet is to retire Director of Press and Publishing Otoum, and Mr. Azmi from Jordan Tel-

Bridge to be closed Sunday

AMMAN (Petra) — King Hussein's Bridge on River Jordan will be closed on Sunday for passengers from and to the West Bank, a Public Security spokesman said on Friday.

Israel lifts restriction on UNRWA supplies

TEL AVIV (R) — Supply trucks of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) are again being allowed to move freely in and out of South Lebanon after conclusion of new "security arrangements," Israeli military sources said Friday. UNRWA vehicles, which carry food and medicine for Palestinian refugees in South Lebanon, have been held up for the past few weeks.

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No progress towards peace without Arab unity — Arafat

By P.V. Vivekanand and Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Writers

AMMAN — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said Friday he did not expect any progress towards a solution to the Middle East problem on either the political level or the military level without a unified Arab stand.

Mr. Arafat, speaking at a news conference after two days of talks with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, attributed Israel's success in securing the support of the United States "not only to Israeli lobbying and the continuing American conspiracy but also the absence of Arab weight caused by internal differences and divisions," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The PLO chairman arrived here Wednesday after a five-nation Gulf tour during which he discussed the current situation in the Palestinian arena and prospects for convening the much-delayed 7th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile. He

was also reported to be pressing efforts for an emergency summit of the heads of state of an Islamic goodwill committee seeking to end the 49-month-old Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

During his press conference in Amman Friday, Mr. Arafat said he discussed with Jordanian leaders current Palestinian affairs and efforts for convening the PNC. In reply to a question he said the PNC meeting has to be convened before the end of November according to a decision taken at a meeting in Tunis last week by more than half the 384 members of the council.

Inter-PLO differences and objections to Mr. Arafat's leadership of the organisation by Syria and factions supported by Damascus have been delaying the planned

meeting of the PNC, which met last in February 1983.

Mr. Arafat said Friday Jordan and Iraq have offered to host the PNC meeting, but "we are waiting for Algeria's decision in the matter in the next few days after which matters will be clarified and a decision can be taken on the venue."

Algeria had agreed to host the PNC but Syrian pressure has prompted the Algerian leadership to adopt a stand that it will host the meeting only if all PLO factions, pro- as well as anti-Arafat, agree to attend, according to PLO sources.

The Syrian-backed PLO factions have announced they would not attend the planned PNC session unless Mr. Arafat steps down from the leadership of the PLO.

The Arafat-Syrian rifts date back to June 1983 when the PLO chairman accused Damascus of supporting a rebellion within the ranks of Fatah, the mainstream commando movement within the PLO, and Syria retaliated by expelling him.

Commenting on efforts to reconcile him with the Syrian leadership, Mr. Arafat said Friday: "I will not stop it (the efforts) because the Palestinian leadership has taken a binding decision to continue all efforts."

"We welcome any new initiative for reconciliation," he added.

In reply to a question he described Palestinian-Soviet relations as good and said Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, with whom he held talks in East Berlin last month, has assured him of the Soviet Union's desire to find a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem through an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. Mr. Gromyko also reaffirmed Soviet "rejection of any attempt to destroy the unity of the PLO," Mr. Arafat said.

The PLO chairman was received by King Hussein Thursday evening in a meeting attended by Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Obeidat and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud. A palace spokesman, quoted by Petra, said King Hussein presented "an analysis of the current Arab situation and the various developments in the Middle East," and, in turn, Mr. Arafat briefed the King on the current situation in the Palestinian arena and efforts to convene the

(Continued on page 2)

Tehran reports Iraqi raids

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi war planes attacked the Iranian town of Saleh Abad in Ilam province Friday killing one and wounding three others, IRNA, the official Iranian news agency, reported.

Salah Abad is 38 kilometres west of Meimnak, the scene of last week's Iranian offensive, in the central sector of the Iran-Iraq battlefield.

Meanwhile, the so-called tanker war continued Thursday when Iraq announced its forces have hit four "large enemy naval targets" in the Gulf.

A military spokesman in Baghdad announced the attacks.

Iraq has in the past used the term "large enemy naval targets" to describe foreign oil tankers or other large merchant vessels dealing with Iran.

Israeli jets 'buzz' Beirut as special committee discusses S. Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Israeli warplanes roared over the Lebanese capital Friday as President Amin Gemayel was meeting with members of an "emergency committee" on a plan to fill any security vacuum should the Israeli army pull back suddenly from occupied southern Lebanon.

Addressing the five-man committee at the opening session, Mr. Gemayel said "we must concentrate our efforts on a strategy to guard against new massacres and new inter-Lebanese hostilities" in case of a surprise Israeli withdrawal of partial pullback. The Israelis currently occupy Lebanon to as far north as the Awwal River, 35 kilometres south of Beirut.

The committee groups senior military officers from the main warring militias as well as a representative from the Lebanese army. It was formed by the Lebanese national coalition government last month to work out a strategy to guard against civil war

fighting between rival militias in the south once the Israelis leave. Israel's pullback from the central mountains last year triggered a three-week war in which Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militiamen drove their mostly Christian foes out of the mountain region just east of Beirut.

The two-hour meeting at President Gemayel's palace in Baabda, eight kilometres east of Beirut, was also attended by Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The state radio said another session was scheduled for Monday.

Israel Radio said that an inner cabinet forum of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' cabinet has approved guidelines for negotiating an Israeli pullout from Lebanon.

The guidelines, which will be discussed by the Israeli cabinet next week, call for seeking American mediation with Syria for "security arrangements" to facilitate an Israeli withdrawal, the

radio said.

As the Lebanese "emergency committee" meeting got under way, two Israeli warplanes streaked at almost rooftop level over the capital.

The planes, which looked like Israeli-built Kfir, sent a thunderous roar echoing through the city. They only made one pass, and radios reported no bombing.

Launching the emergency committee for South Lebanon was part of a Gemayel administration drive to create adequate conditions for ending Lebanon's nine-year civil war.

Reuters adds: Explosions and gunfire echoed through the South Lebanon city of Sidon Thursday after a clash between Israeli troops and armed men in which three people were killed, security sources said.

The sources said at least five Israeli soldiers were hit in the clashes, which began Wednesday night.

'Arab Revolutionary Brigades' claims attack

ROME (R) — A group called the "Arab Revolutionary Brigades" claimed responsibility Friday for an attack on a United Arab Emirates (UAE) diplomat that seriously injured him and killed an Iranian woman with him, the Italian news agency ANSA reported.

It said the claim was made in a telephone call to a French news agency in Paris.

It quoted the caller as saying the attack was "a warning to the United Arab Emirates and to the other Gulf states against continuing their policy tied to the

Americans and to the Zionist movement hostile to the Arabs and the Palestinians."

The Arab Revolutionary Brigades claimed responsibility for the killing of the UAE ambassador in Paris last February, and also the blowing up of a Gulf Air jet in the Emirates in 1983, in which 111 people died.

ANSA quoted the caller as saying the brigades would "continue to strike until the Gulf states cease their present policies and respond to revolutionary requests."

Mohammad Ali Suweidi, a second secretary at the UAE embassy in Rome, was in serious condition in hospital after a gunman ambushed his car in Rome Thursday night.

Police said his companion had died immediately.

The two were fired at several times by the gunman, who approached the car as it waited at a junction on the northern outskirts of the city.

Police arrested an Arab near the car after the ambush, and a semi-automatic Colt pistol — not a Czechoslovak make as was first

thought — was found on the ground nearby.

Police named the arrested man as Jihad Mohammad Othman, 22. They said he had arrived in Rome a few days ago.

It was not known whether the attack on the car, which has diplomatic licence plates, was politically motivated or not.

They said the diplomat's companion in the car, a student from Tehran, named as Noushin Montasseri, was not known to have been politically active.

Venice conference calls for implementing Helsinki accord

VENICE, Italy (AP) — The 35 countries that signed the 1975 Helsinki accord on Friday called for "implementing all of its provisions," which include strong stands in favour of human rights.

The statement came at the end of a 10-day meeting of the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). The CSCE meeting was an outgrowth of the 1975 talks.

"The representatives of the CSCE participating states stressed the importance attached by their governments to the attainment of the objectives set forth in the final act (in Helsinki) by implementing all of its provisions," the final report said.

It also expressed the member nations' "readiness to pursue their efforts accordingly."

Raymond Ewing, the head of the U.S. delegation, told the Associated Press: "As far as we're concerned, that of course includes

Bonn names new speaker after scandal forces Barzel to quit

BONN (R) — The two main partners in the coalition led by Chancellor Helmut Kohl Friday nominated a new speaker for the Bundestag (Lower House) as they and West Germany's other parties assessed the effects of Rainer Barzel's resignation from the post.

Pilipp Jenninger, minister of state in the chancellor's office, was proposed by Dr. Kohl's Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and its sister party, the Christian Socialists (CSU), as their candidate for the speakership.

Mr. Jenninger, a close confidant of Dr. Kohl, is an expert on East-West relations.

The speaker is traditionally chosen by the largest party in the Bundestag where the CDU/CSU counts as a single party.

The opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD) has indicated it will support Mr. Jenninger when a new speaker is elected on Nov. 5. Mr. Barzel resigned following

allegations that he had received 1.7 million marks (\$560,000) from the Flick industrial concern after resigning in 1973 as CDU leader in favour of Dr. Kohl.

Mr. Barzel issued a new denial of the allegations Friday.

Dr. Kohl has said Mr. Barzel's resignation Thursday as speaker was the result of a campaign against his centre-right coalition and himself.

But CDU General Secretary Heiner Geissler said Mr. Barzel had possibly stayed in office too long and that it would have been better if his decision to resign had come sooner.



Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat answers reporters' questions at a press conference he held in Amman Friday (Petra photo)

Obeidat reiterates rejection of Israeli-Egyptian treaty

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Thursday reaffirmed his government's rejection of the U.S.-sponsored Camp David accords between Egypt and Israel and openly predicted that other Arab countries would follow Jordan's move and resume relations with Egypt, which is still boycotted by 16 Arab countries.

"Our move towards Egypt is beginning to bear fruit, and we will witness more of our brothers returning to each other to achieve a minimum of Arab solidarity," Mr. Obeidat said.

Speaking at a regular session of the Lower House of Parliament in response to speeches delivered by deputies on the subject, Mr. Obeidat said Jordan rejected the

Camp David peace treaty as soon as it was signed at a time when the American pressure on the Kingdom was at its peak.

"We rejected it then and we reject it now because it does not guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, our rights in Jerusalem and because it further divides Arab ranks," Mr. Obeidat said.

The prime minister said "no one can impose Camp David on Jordan" and that "it was not an issue of concern" as a part of the Kingdom's decision to restore relations with Egypt.

The House, in an earlier session, praised the government's rejection of the Israeli-Egyptian separate peace treaty and decided to send cables of support of Jordan's decision to His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and the Egyptian

parliament.

Deputy Khaled Fayyadh said the House has already endorsed the Jordanian move towards Egypt and that any further debate of the issue would be "unnecessary and would cast doubt on the decision."

Speaking on the same subject was Deputy Yusef Atham who said that the Camp David agreement was a result of "a Jewish-American conspiracy which supported the enemy's ferocity and arrogance."

Mr. Atham said the only way to liberate Palestine was through armed struggle and that "the Arab Nation is called upon now to set a carefully studied plan for military preparedness" to achieve victory.

Mr. Atham condemned the (Continued on page 3)

Reagan appeals to Jewish voters

VALLEY STREAM, New York (R) — President Reagan Friday delivered a strongly partisan and emotional appeal to American Jewish voters, pledging to work with Israel towards "a common vision of peace, security and economic well-being."

Invoking memories of the "holocaust" and condemning anti-Semitism, Mr. Reagan urged Jewish voters to sever their historical ties to the opposition Democratic Party, which he said had remained silent in the face of bigotry.

Campaigning for support in the Nov. 6 U.S. election, he said his Republican Party had passed a resolution condemning anti-Semitism and religious intolerance of any kind.

"The Democratic Party could not find the moral courage or leadership to pass a similar resolution and, forgive me, but I think they owe you an explanation," he told a congregation at a Jewish temple about 40 kilometres from New York City.

"What has happened to them?" he asked. "Why did they not stand shoulder to shoulder with us in support of tolerance and unequivocal opposition to prejudice and bigotry?"

Mr. Reagan said he would not stand for what he called anti-Zionism in the United Nations and added that if Israel were ever forced to walk out, the United States would go too.

He praised U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Jeane Kirkpatrick as a "tenacious watchdog" who had defended Israel "with courage."

He contrasted her "force and determination" with what he called the sad moment in March, 1980, during the presidency of Democrat Jimmy Carter, when the U.S. delegate to the U.N. voted in favour of a resolution condemning Israel.

Challenging the position of his Democratic rival Walter Mondale, who was then vice president, Mr. Reagan asked: "And why did my opponent remain silent?"

Klibi sets terms for Egypt's return to Arab fold

TUNIS (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi Friday outlined two conditions for Egypt's return to the pan-Arab body, but did not demand that Cairo formally renounce the U.S.-sponsored Camp David accord with Israel.

In a reply to a reporter's question published here, he said: "Egypt must either free itself from the excessive constraints imposed by the Camp David accords or Israel must accept the Arab peace plan adopted at the (1982) Arab summit in Fez."

The Fez plan, which Israel rejects, calls for an independent Palestinian state but also implicitly guarantees the right of all states in the region, including Israel, to secure borders.

Friday's statement marked a slight softening of Mr. Klibi's position compared with remarks attributed to him in Vienna on Tuesday in which he was quoted as saying Egypt should renounce the Camp David accords.

Egypt was suspended from the

Arab League over its 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel. The treaty followed the 1978 Camp David accords which are rejected by the majority of Arab states.

Jordan recently renewed diplomatic relations with Cairo becoming the first Arab state to do so among 17 Arab League countries to do so.

Mr. Klibi said the Arabs wanted Egypt to return to the Arab fold as quickly as possible, but that no final decision had been taken and his conditions were only "two possibilities."

The Arab League chief did not spell out what he meant by excessive constraints of Camp David but he indicated that Egypt should use its weight to press for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

"It is important for us that Egypt returns to its place in the Arab family as soon as possible — but with all its weight, which means it has to reinforce the Arab

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Explosives row dominates Mitterrand visit to Britain

LONDON (R) — Conflicting versions of how a French security agent came to plant explosives here during the state visit of President Francois Mitterrand dominated the final day of his official stay.

Efforts by the French and British governments to play down the incident failed to calm a furor on both sides of the English Channel that eclipsed the achievements of the four-day Mitterrand visit.

The official British account of the affair is that a French agent planted plastic explosives in the grounds of the French ambassador's residence in a bid to test the effectiveness of police security measures.

The unprimed explosives were located by police sniffer dogs on Tuesday.

A French embassy statement Thursday said that the incident arose strictly by the regulations of was the result of a "regrettable but honest" misunderstanding involving a said.

French bomb disposal expert assigned to Mr. Mitterrand's party.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told parliament she took a serious view of the affair but that it would not be allowed to mar the state visit.

Mr. Mitterrand said Friday the French security agent was wrong to bring explosives into Britain but he believed the dispute that followed their discovery would not harm Franco-British relations.

Mr. Mitterrand was speaking at a news conference at the end of his four-day state visit.

He said the French bomb disposal expert who planted the unprimed explosives as a test of British security acted without malicious intent, but he was wrong to have brought the explosives into the country.

Iran killed PoWs, ICRC says

GENEVA (R) — Iranian guards shot and killed six Iraqi prisoners of war and wounded 35 others in a riot at a camp north-east of Tehran this month, a Red Cross official has said.

The official, Jean Jacques Kurtz, said the shootings were witnessed by three Swiss nationals working for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The incident took place during what Mr. Kurtz described as "a real riot" on Oct. 10 at Gorgan, some 80 kilometres from the frontier with the Soviet Union.

On Thursday the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying Iranian soldiers had fired on PoWs at a camp in the Iranian town of Kukkan.

It said Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz had sent a message of protest over the incident in United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Arab League, the Organisation of Islamic Conference and India, chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, asking for action to stop such practices.

Mr. Kurtz declined to give any further information on the incident or comment on the reasons for the riot.

Sources close to the ICRC said there were some 1,500 Iraqi prisoners in the camp. They linked the riot with official ICRC reports earlier this year that Iran had brought "ideological pressure" on Iraqi PoWs with the aim of turning them against their government and of obstructing the work of the ICRC.

Iran handed over 72 wounded

and sick Iraqi PoWs to the Red Cross at Ankara Airport earlier Thursday. The prisoners were handed over to Iraqi representatives for repatriation, the ICRC said here.

"Following this repatriation, the ICRC is waiting to see the Islamic Republic of Iran allow, in the near future, the repatriation of all seriously sick or disabled Iraqi PoWs who have not yet been released, of whom the list has been communicated by the ICRC to the Iranian authorities," the ICRC said in a written statement.

Last February the International Red Cross issued a communique accusing Iran of grave violation of human rights.

It said of camps in Iran: "Some of the camps have been the scene of serious incidents and some Iraqi prisoners of war registered and visited on several occasions in the camps by ICRC delegates in Iran have later been reported 'killed in action'."

An Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman said "this criminal act was committed in the presence of representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross," he said, adding that it showed Iran ignored norms of human conduct and international law.

The spokesman charged that Iran had committed such an act before, and said Iraq would take whatever steps were necessary to prevent any recurrence.

New army chief named

Meanwhile Col. Esmaeel Sohrabi, described by Iran as a competent military commander committed to Islam, was named Thursday as new chief of joint staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, Tehran Radio reported.

He succeeds Brig. Gen. Qassemi Zahir-Nejad, who was appointed a representative for Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini on the Supreme Defence Council two days ago.

The appointments were made by Khomeini, who is commander of the armed forces, after an offensive in the central sector of the warfront with Iraq in which Iran said it recaptured Iranian territory held by Iraq.

The decree appointing Col. Sohrabi referred to his achievements on the battlefield and his commitment to Islam.

Brig. Zahir-Nejad was appointed to the Supreme Defence Council, Iran's inner war cabinet, to replace Mustaf Chamran, who was killed on the warfront in June 1981.

Khomeini's other representative on the council is the Speaker of the Majlis (parliament), Ali Akbar Rafsanjani.

Iran's latest Gulf war offensive has driven Iraqi troops out of hills in the central sector of the battlefront but left them still several kilometres inside Iran on plains straddling the border.

Iranian officers told Western correspondents visiting the Meimak Heights in western Ilam province their troops had recaptured 80 square kilometres of territory

held by Iraqi forces since the early days of the four-year-old war.

But one intelligence officer said the new Iraqi front lines were still some seven kilometres inside Iran, on the edge of the marshy plains stretching west to the river Tigris and Baghdad, 120 kilometres away.

The Iraqis attacked in three waves along mountain passes just before midnight nine days ago. Advancing through barbed wire and minefields under artillery cover, they pushed the Iraqis back after hours of bloody, often hand-to-hand fighting, he said.

He did not say why the advance had not pushed further west. But other officers said the offensive had had limited aims — to halt Iraqi shelling of Iranian villages near the border.

They said a mixed force of Iranian Basij (volunteers), Revolutionary Guards and regular army units was entrenched lower down the slopes, but gave no indication of its size or whether it was preparing for a further offensive.

Iraqi shells still burst sporadically around the hills — each round returned by Iranian gunners — as a convoy carrying the correspondents moved into an area north of the scene of the heaviest fighting.

Iraqi jets also swept over the heights — at one point an Iraqi missile hit an army post only metres away from the convoy.

The trucks carrying the journalists — the first to visit the front since the fighting died down four days ago — stayed 500 metres apart to avoid raising dust and attracting Iraqi artillery spotters as they moved into the hills.

Turkey sacks finance minister

ANKARA (R) — President Kenan Evren removed Finance and Customs Minister Vural Arikan from office Friday after he refused to resign in connection with what the Turkish press calls a customs scandal, Ankara Radio said.

Prime Minister Turgut Ozal announced Thursday night that Interior Minister Ali Tanriyar had resigned and that Arikan would step down Friday.

"I am not going to resign," Mr. Arikan was quoted in Friday's Turkish papers as saying.

The Interior Ministry detained senior Finance Ministry officials two months ago following investigations into alleged smuggling activities at the customs post of Kapikule on the Turkish-Bulgarian border.

But Mr. Arikan accused Mr. Tanriyar of violating the law while investigating them and of not preventing their maltreatment in detention. He told parliament on Wednesday that Mr. Tanriyar ignored claims of torture by relatives of the detainees.

The state radio announced replacements for the two ministers.

Mr. Yildirim Akbulut, a member of parliament from the ruling Motherland Party, has been named the new interior minister, and Minister of State Ahmet Altinok the new minister of finance and customs.

Member of Parliament Ahmet Karaevli has been appointed minister of state to replace Mr. Altinok.

Under the constitution, the president can remove a minister upon the prime minister's suggestion, but observers said Friday's sacking was the first time it had happened in Turkey.

Both Mr. Arikan and Mr. Tanriyar had served in their posts since the formation 10 months ago of the civilian government which replaced military rule in Turkey.

Mr. Arikan accused the governor of Edirne, the police director general and the interior minister of violating the law during the investigations of the officials.

Referring in parliament to claims of torture, Mr. Arikan said the relatives of those detained had complained about the attitude of the police. He said he had recorded the complaints on a cassette tape which he planned to submit to parliament.

His revelations caused a major stir and the cabinet met Thursday night to discuss the issue.

In announcing the resignations, the prime minister said: "I received from Mr. Tanriyar his letter of resignation and requested the same from Mr. Arikan, who said he would bring it to me tomorrow morning."

Mr. Arikan, questioned later about Mr. Ozal's announcement, told reporters "I don't have an appointment with the prime minister tomorrow."

Asked if this meant he did not intend to resign, he replied: "You have to ask that of the person who announced this resignation."

He said he would attend a money and credit council meeting within the Finance Ministry Friday.

Kidnapped AP employees released

BEIRUT (R) — Four Lebanese employees of the American news agency Associated Press (AP) were released unharmed after being held for about 32 hours by three gunmen, AP Middle East Chief Correspondent Terry Anderson said.

Mr. Anderson said the four, who were driving to work Wednesday when kidnapped, were released Thursday afternoon by gunmen who refused to give their identity or any reason for the abduction.

Their release appeared to have been secured largely through the help of Justice Minister Nabih Berri, leader of the Shiite Amal Movement, Mr. Anderson said.

The four are office manager Charles Assi, driver Obaidine Habal, Radio monitor Khazen Abboud and accountant Nicola Chafari.

Mr. Anderson said Mr. Habal had just picked up the other three to take them to work when a vehicle pulled up and stopped the AP car about 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) Wednesday.

Three gunmen got out, pointing AK-47 assault rifles and a pistol at the four and told them not to move or ask any questions, he said.

Three of the staff were forced into the gunmen's car and one of the abductors drove off in the AP vehicle with Mr. Habal.

A U.S. government spokesman said Wednesday he believed new information had been received over the past two weeks of a threat to Americans in Beirut, including journalists, but that there was no information on specific targets.

Mr. Anderson said the AP employees were taken to a Muslim

suburb, blindfolded and then moved to a house they could not identify.

The gunmen, asked whether they were members of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia or Amal, told the AP employees they belonged to neither group and it was none of their business, Mr. Anderson said.

He said the gunmen promised to release the four within hours, but held them overnight after questioning them about their work and their religious affiliations.

The AP employees said they were not mistreated, and chains, rings and jewellery taken from them were later returned. After being released, the four were taken to Amal headquarters and then to Mr. Berri's office where the minister congratulated them on their release, Mr. Anderson said.

Qadhafi meets with British mine workers representative

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi met with an envoy representing the British National Union of Mine Workers Thursday evening and "inquired about the state of British miners who have been on strike for over eight months now," the official Libyan News Agency (JANA) reported Friday.

Col. Qadhafi "expressed sympathy with the striking workers who suffer from abuse and exploitation at the hand of the exploiting ruling class in Britain."

The report did not identify the British union representative.

It added that Col. Qadhafi conveyed to the envoy Libya's "solidarity with the striking miners struggle to gain the legitimate rights and their rights in production."

'No progress without unity'

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in the Tunisian capital on Saturday.

Earlier Thursday, Mr. Arafat held talks with Mr. Obaidat while Palestinian officials accompanied him to discuss with Jordanian officials various political issues including Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation and coordination.

Six members of the Central Committee of Fatah were in Amman Wednesday and Thursday. Although there was speculation that a formal meeting of the Fatah Central Committee could be held in Amman, Palestinian sources said there was no such formal meetings, but these officials held talks with Jordanian officials Thursday. Some of the Fatah officials left for Tunis late Thursday and early Friday to prepare for a meeting of Fatah with leaders of five other PLO factions

'Assassination plot'

In London, the Arab weekly Al Tadamon said Friday Mr. Arafat has survived an assassination attempt by opponents who sabotaged parts of a plane taking him from North Yemen to Iraq.

Mr. Arafat told the magazine in an interview that his plane developed serious technical problems shortly after taking off from Sanaa airport on Oct. 19. One of the wheels exploded, forcing the plane to make an emergency landing, Al Tadamon said.

The magazine quoted Mr. Arafat as saying there was definitely a plot to kill him. When asked who was behind it, he replied: "The enemy and some brothers are participating in the conspiracy. They want to kill me because they are afraid that I will disclose their secrets."

UNRWA may face financial crisis

VIENNA (J.T.) — The chronic financial shortage affecting the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) is likely to come to a head next year, commissioner-general Olof Rydbeck predicted, according to an agency press release.

He told a press conference in New York that the agency, which provides education, health and relief services to Palestine refugees in the Middle East, would need \$225 million in cash to keep services going in 1985. In 1984 he expected that UNRWA's income from voluntary contributions would amount to only \$179 million.

UNRWA was accustomed to money shortage he said but the new and most worrying development was that its income was decreasing from year to year.

"I think the agency can be proud that in very trying circumstances we have usually been able to continue our operations," Mr. Rydbeck observed. "But we are far from being out of the woods yet, and I am extremely worried."

He also expressed concern over the violence to which Palestine refugees were being exposed in Lebanon and at the lack of job opportunities that they had there. UNRWA was planning to train them in skills with which they could earn an income.

In answer to correspondents' questions Mr. Rydbeck discounted press reports that Palestinian fighters were re-establishing themselves in Lebanon. "There is no sign so far as I know that there is an organised Palestinian force assembling again in Beirut or in South Lebanon."

Klibi sets conditions

(Continued from page 1)

camp and contribute to saving the Palestinian people from the crisis, it is going through and helping it to recover its homeland and establish a state."

Referring to the Fez plan, Mr. Klibi said if Israel accepted it, "Egyptian-Israeli relations would become a private matter for Egypt and not an anomaly. What we reject today is peace with Israel without anything in return."

The Arab states have been unable to convene a summit since the Fez gathering due to continuing differences, particularly over the question of Egypt's return to the organisation.

The next Arab summit, already delayed for a year, is scheduled for the final week in November, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, though diplomats here about whether it can be held.

Lubber arrives in Greece from Kuwait

ATHENS (R) — Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers arrived here Thursday for a 24-hour visit which diplomats said would focus on European Community matters and the Middle East as well as Greek-Dutch issues.

Mr. Lubbers and his Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek, who met Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu late Thursday, were expected to brief the Greek government on talks Mr. Lubbers had in Kuwait.

The Netherlands hopes the Greek government, which takes a pro-Arab stance, would exchange

ambassadors with Israel.

Greece, which opposes new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe, has welcomed the Dutch government's decision to deploy them only under certain conditions.

The two nations both support a more liberal road transport policy for the European Community, as well as enlargement of the bloc.

Commentators said the talks might include a possible Dutch role in Greek defence modernisation.

Mr. Lubbers ended a four-day visit to Kuwait Thursday and a joint statement said both countries had agreed to cooperate in the economic, oil and agricultural fields.

Kuwait and the Netherlands expressed concern over the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and hoped the two warring parties would solve their dispute.

On the Palestinian issue the statement said the two countries were agreed on the need for a just and durable peace in the Middle East which would guarantee the right of self-determination for the Palestinians and a withdrawal of Israel from Arab territories occupied in 1967.

On his way to Italy, Mr. Heseltine was stopping over in Sinai to inspect the British contingent in the Multinational Force there.

Mr. Heseltine, who was received by President Hosni Mubarak, held talks with Egyptian Defence Minister Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala on Egyptian arms requirements and other military issues.

Mr. Heseltine said Thursday Europe had tried but failed to help reach a political settlement in the Middle East.

Speaking after a meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Maguid, he told reporters in reply to a question about Europe's role in the area: "We have tried to reach a political settlement but unfortunately without success."

He said he will repeat longstanding British and European Community views on the Arab-Israeli conflict — that Israel must give up territory and recognise the Palestinians' right to self-determination and that the Arabs must recognise Israel's right to exist within secure boundaries.

Heseltine ends visit to Egypt

CAIRO (R) — British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine left here Friday for Rome after a three-day visit to Egypt during which he discussed Middle East developments and boosting bilateral military cooperation.

On his way to Italy, Mr. Heseltine was stopping over in Sinai to inspect the British contingent in the Multinational Force there.

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Howe due in Israel to reinforce ties

TEL AVIV (R) — Britain's Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe is due in Israel on Sunday for an official two-day visit which both sides believe will reinforce improved ties after several years of tension.

Israeli and British officials say relations went through a particularly rough patch in 1982 when Israel invaded Lebanon and also supplied arms to Argentina during Britain's war with it over the Falklands.

Since then, changes in ministries in both countries have led to a more pragmatic approach and an even keel.

Sir Geoffrey will meet Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin. He will also have breakfast with prominent Palestinians at Britain's East Jerusalem consulate.

The last visit by a senior British official, a year ago, was marked when the Israelis banned three radical Palestinians from coming to Jerusalem to meet him.

A furious Richard Luce, minister of state in the Foreign Office, found himself surrounded by empty chairs at a lunch with Palestinians arranged for him by the British consulate.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Main Channel
06:00 Morning News
06:30 Children's Programme
07:00 English Teaching
07:30 First Aid
08:00 News
08:30 Cartoons
09:00 Children's Programme
09:30 Foldover Stories
10:00 Local Programme
10:30 Comedy Story
11:00 Programme Review
11:30 News Programme
12:00 News in Arabic
12:30 Arabic Series
13:00 Programme Review
13:30 Arabic Film
14:00 News in Arabic
14:30 Film Contd.

FOREIGN CHANNEL
16:00 French Programme
16:30 News in French
17:00 News in Hebrew
17:30 Comedy Story
18:00 Saturday Night Show
21:00 News in English
21:30 Feature film: Portrait in Black

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& partly on 95.60 KHz, SW
07:00 Light Music
07:30 News
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show
09:30 News Summary
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session
11:00 News Summary
11:30 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:30 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 News
15:00 Concert Hour
15:30 News Summary
16:00 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 News
17:30 Special Feature
18:00 Music
18:30 News Summary
19:00 Top Twenty
19:30 News
20:00 Date with a Star
20:30 Good Old Days
21:00 Just a Minute
21:30 News Summary
22:00 Country Music
22:30 News Summary
23:00 Play of the Week
23:30 News Summary
24:00 Classical Concert
24:30 News Headlines

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

SCIENTIFIC SERIES

* A special scientific series which explores the latest achievements in medicine and science at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre (Oct. 21, 24, 28).

PLAYS

* A musical play of puppets and images (Duru French Group) at 6:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (Oct. 26, 27).

* A mime play by the famous American troupe Dolly and Bobby at the Royal Cultural Centre on Oct. 25, 26, 29, 30 and Nov. 1, 2.

* A Jordanian children's play entitled "A City Without Love" at 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 27 and 30 respectively at the Royal Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267
American Centre - 44371
American Centre Library - 41520
British Council - 36147-8
French Cultural Centre - 37009
Goethe Institute - 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre - 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre - 39777
Haya Arts Centre - 665195
Hussein Youth City - 667181
Y.W.C.A. - 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251
Amman Municipal Library - 36111
University of Jordan Library - 843555

MUSEUMS

Foldover Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also museum from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Crusade Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century

orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Al-Layl. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Martyr's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) - Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) - Jabal Al-Layl, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) - Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) - Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) - Jabal Amman, 41559.
American Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) - Ashrafieh, 771751.
Assumption International Church (Inter-denominational) - meet at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.

PRAYER TIMES

04:26 (Fajr)
05:45 (Sunrise) Duha
11:20 Dhuhr
14:28 Asr
16:52 Maghreb
18:14 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alfa Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 5325153070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

05:50 Cairo (MS)
09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Riyadh (RJ)
09:45 Jeddah (RJ)
09:45 Dhahran (RJ)
10:00 Beirut (RJ)
10:00 Cairo (RJ)
10:45 Singapore (RJ)
12:05 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
12:30 Laraca (CY)
14:00 Kuwait (KU)
18:00 Istanbul (RJ)
18:10 Paris, Damascus (AF)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:45 Rome, Damascus (AZ)
19:00 Tripoli (RJ)
19:15 Beirut (MEA)
20:50 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
20:50 Cairo (MS)
00:45 Cairo (RJ)
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

05:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Beirut (RJ)
06:30 Cairo (MS)
06:45 Agaba (RJ)
07:15 Beirut (MEA)
07:30 Athens (OA)
11:15 Tripoli (RJ)
11:45 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:30 Istanbul (RJ)
12:30 Rome (RJ)
13:30 Laraca (CY)
14:30 Bahrain, Doha, Muscat (GF)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:40 Kuwait (KU)
19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:45 Cairo (RJ)
21:10 Baghdad (RJ)
21:50 Cairo (MS)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:
— Abu Mazen
— Pharos
— Pileger Kosmoumout
— Karim
— Farah One
— Al Qamar Saudi
— Hual Angelita

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MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc - 64.91 / 65.3
Dutch guilder - 116.4 / 117.1

Hussein cables Austrian president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday sent a cable to Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlager congratulating him in his own name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on Austria's National Day. The King also wished the Austrian people further progress and prosperity.

Karak-Mu'ta road crash claims 3 lives, injures 17

KARAK (J.T.) — Three persons died and 17 others were injured in a road accident on the Karak — Mu'ta road in southern Jordan. The accident was due to excessive speed by a bus travelling in the direction of Karak from Mu'ta, according to a police spokesman. He said that the bus collided with a pick-up truck owned by a Chinese company, and that the accident

resulted in the death of Jamil Sarireh, Anwar Tarawneh and Hidayat Shalabi. Both drivers were injured along with 15 other people, mostly bus passengers, the spokesman said. The victims were transferred to Karak hospitals for treatment and the civil defence department here supervised the rescue operation, the spokesman added.

JPMC to establish staff housing fund scheme

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPMC) Board of Directors has recently approved a regulation for establishing a JD half million housing fund for the company's staff, JPMC's Director General Wasef Al-Anani said.

The fund will provide loans to the company's staff who wish to construct houses or apartments or expand their existing ones or those wishing to settle old loans borrowed from other sources, he said. The housing fund's regulation provides for forming a member housing committee, which will be charged with forming technical committees or seeking technical assistance for existing committees.

The fund's resources mainly consist of the money allocated for loans in addition to grants and aid by any other parties and the subscription fees, which will be deducted from the participants' monthly salaries.

According to the provisions of the regulation, each participant will have to pay a non-refundable fee of JD 25 which will be paid in full, in addition to a monthly subscription, equivalent to at least five per cent of the participant's salary, provided that the subscription should not be less than JD 10.

In order to be eligible for a housing loan, staff should have worked for at least seven years in the company and should not be in possession of a house or have acquired one through the Housing Corporation or from a mass housing project.

The loan ceiling has been fixed by the regulation at 70 times the worker's monthly salary, provided that it does not exceed JD 15,000 and that it be settled in monthly instalments not exceeding 25 per cent of the worker's salary unless he wishes to make his instalment payment larger.

Florida circus' raises money for handicapped centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The "Florida Show" circus, organised by the National Association for the Mentally Handicapped, opened here Thursday at the King Hussein Sports City.

The show, organised for the first time in Jordan, includes water circus performances displaying many

animals including crocodiles, snakes, one shark, a dolphin and sea lions. The two-hour show also includes acrobatic and comic performances started by three cyclists riding mono bicycles, followed by folkloric dances from Argentina, France, India, Germany and Italy.

Attending the opening show,



PARACHUTING PRINCE — His Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein Thursday received the free fall jump badge from His Majesty King Hussein upon the conclusion of a special training course. The presentation of the badge took place at a ceremony attended by Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. Prince Abdullah, the eldest son of King Hussein, holds the rank of First Lieutenant in the Jordanian Armed Forces. (Petra photo)

Irbid taxi hijack case leaves one gunman dead

AMMAN (J.T.) — Irbid police continued investigations Friday into the circumstances behind the death of one of two unidentified gunmen who Wednesday kidnapped a taxi driver in his car forcing him to drive towards an unknown destination.

The kidnappers were chased by a police car which later exchanged fire with the armed assailants, one of whom was shot dead. It was not known who shot the assailant identified only as "A" but police officials were quoted Thursday by Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper as saying that he was shot by his partner, identified as "R", who was shooting carelessly in all directions.

During the car chase, two schoolgirls, 14-year-old Suzanne Habibi and 13-year-old Ghadeer Abdullah, were hit by the speeding taxi on their way to school. Both girls were admitted to Princess Basma hospital in Irbid.

Hospital officials said that Ghadeer would have to have her leg amputated while Suzanne was reported to be in good condition.

Police in Irbid told the Jordan Times that "R" has for a long time been put under house detention by the police, but they did not specify the reasons for this. Suspect "R", arrested by the police immediately after the incident, was reported to have refused to say anything until a court on the case was convened, sources told the Jordan Times.

Zarga thermal unit to boost electrical supply

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Hussein Thermal Power Station (HTPS) steam unit 7 in Zarga will be inaugurated Sunday under the patronage of Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism and JEA Chairman of the Board Jawad Al Anani. This unit, along with the six other HTPS units will feed electrical loads which amount to 80 per cent of the electrical supply needed for the country.

A JEA spokesman said that the construction of this unit came as a result of the increasing demand for electricity by vital industrial, agricultural and economic projects and the increasing individual consumption of electricity. It also aims to strengthen the capacities of JEA's generating stations.

Once completed, the steam unit 7 will bring the HTPS generation capacity to 400 MW and the generated electricity from this unit will be transmitted to Irbid in the north and to Aqaba in the south. With the completion of unit 7, the HTPS will become one of the major world generating stations, the spokesman added.

Anani returns from Cairo joint committee meetings

Jordan, Egypt sign \$150m trade cooperation protocol

By Amin Qutub in Cairo

Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani returned to Amman from Cairo Friday morning after signing a \$150 million protocol between Jordan and Egypt to strengthen trade exchange between the two countries, to encourage economic cooperation and to launch joint ventures.

During Dr. Anani's stay in Egypt he participated in the Jordanian-Egyptian talks held last week by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. "The minutes of the meetings of the Jordanian-Egyptian committees have been signed and we hope that the rest of the bilateral agreements in the various fields will be signed," said Dr. Anani. Commenting on the agreements which have been signed Dr. Anani said that the signing of this eighth protocol is a clear indication of the level of brotherly and close relations between the two countries.

normally imposed on imports and exports and will give Egyptian and Jordanian products the same treatment usually offered to national products in terms of consumption, tax and production fees.

The two countries agreed that trade with both the private and public sectors should be paid for with free convertible currency at a minimum of \$50 million, provided that the private sector's share on each side should not be less than \$10 million.

The two sides also agreed to offer each other credit facilities for trade and to allow each of their trade centres in Amman and Cairo to import \$2.5 million worth of products annually.

They agreed to help organise trade fairs to promote the sale of products from either country and promised to facilitate the exchange of trade delegations and to provide them with information on trade. It was agreed that Jordan

will export to Egypt aluminium fluoride, cement and fertilisers, and that contacts will be made between the two sides to sign agreements on their bilateral economic cooperation soon after recommendations issued by the special joint committee, which ended their meetings here Thursday.

The committee also issued recommendations on cooperation in transport, tourism, the establishment of ferry boat services between Egyptian and Jordanian ports and tourism.

The committee also issued recommendations concerning agriculture, industry, energy, the exchange of information in irrigation, agricultural mechanisation and combating agricultural pests. The committee urged the two governments to help launch joint industrial ventures, to sign a protocol on the exchange of labour and the transfer of funds and labourers' savings and to unify their school textbooks and curricula.

The protocol was signed by Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani and his Egyptian counterpart Dr. Mustafa Al Sa'idi.

Mufti stresses importance of women in development, population policies

AMMAN (Petra) — Mrs. In'am Al Mufti, special adviser to Her Majesty Queen Noor, Thursday said the nature of life and requirements of contemporary civilisation warrants mobilising all resources necessary for progress and reconstruction.

Mrs. Mufti, who was addressing the participants of the second Amman symposium on population culture, stressed the importance of women's participation in the development stages and their efforts in achieving the objectives of the new international economic system. "Developing countries, including the Arab

World, should mobilise their manpower resources, men and women alike, if they want to be able to face the various challenges facing them," said Mrs. Mufti.

Participants in the seminar Thursday discussed three working papers on defining a unified Arab concept for population culture strategy, population policies in the Arab World, population and the labour force and planning in the Arab World.

Before this they discussed a paper on cooperative work, which said that there are 600,000 cooperative societies in the world with 260 million people as members.

while in the Arab World, the paper said, there are 200,000 societies with a membership of more than 20 million people. In Jordan alone, the paper said, there are 406 societies with 42,000 members.

Earlier during the first week of the seminar a working paper outlined emigration from Jordan to the Arab states, especially during the oil boom of the 1970s. The paper, presented to the meeting by Dr. Bassam Al Saket, director of the Pension Fund, said that 96 per cent of Jordanian emigrants were male and, nearly 42 per cent of them are in Saudi Arabia.

Obeidat reiterates Jordan's rejection of Camp David

(Continued from page 1)

U.S. Congress' call endorsing plans to move the American embassy in Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and described the U.S. as the Arabs' "traditional enemy."

Deputy Lath Shbeilat said the restoration of relations with Egypt at a time when Egypt announces that the peace issue with Israel "is a strategic goal," cannot be explained in "any way but as the beginning of Camp David's acceptance within the Arab ranks."

However, Mr. Shbeilat continued, "I was happy to hear the prime minister reaffirm his rejection of Camp David."

Mr. Shbeilat warned that "we fear that Egypt, which still upholds the accords, would be able by its sheer weight to pull us, rather than being able to pull Cairo towards us."

"What holds Egypt back from renouncing the Camp David accords?" Mr. Shbeilat asked, in an address to the House session which was attended by a number of cabinet members.

Deputy Riad Nawaiseh said the issue of restoring relations with Egypt has already been discussed and that there was no reason to bring the issue up for further debate.

"But since the issue is opened I would like to say that the Camp David accords are now finished from a practical side... buried by America and Israel," Dr. Nawaiseh said. "Israel broke the agreement and annexed the Golan Heights and Jerusalem, invaded Lebanon and did not completely withdraw from Sinai."

House Speaker Akel Al Fayez interrupted Dr. Nawaiseh and said the House has taken the decision to send cables of support and that the House needs to proceed discussions on issues on the agenda.

Deputy Fawzi Toemeh said no matter what changes occur in the situation, "it would not divert us from Jordan's principal stand. Everyone knows that Jordan rejects the agreement between Egypt and Israel and will continue to do so."

Dr. Toemeh said that Jordan's move towards Egypt should prompt Cairo reconsider its accords with Israel in "the light of the Arab reality and in the light of what happened after the agreement was signed."

The House then turned to discuss issues on the agenda and to answer inquiries made by deputies on various issues.

In response to an inquiry by Mr.

Shbeilat concerning what he described as detention of Jordanians in Iraq, the Interior Ministry said it was not officially informed about the subject.

Mr. Shbeilat said he had information that Jordanian citizens who worked with the General Intelligence Department were held prisoners in Iraq and that he was ready to produce names.

"It seems the minister has forgotten that he would be asked by the House and that the information he provides has to be correct and comprehensive," Mr. Shbeilat said. "Otherwise the government would lose its credibility."

Mr. Shbeilat accused the ministry of providing "incorrect" information about his inquiry. "Such performance exposes the government of any country which respects its credibility," he said.

Responding to Mr. Shbeilat's

accusations, Mr. Obeidat said the government carries out its responsibilities within the limits of the Constitution and that "there is no use in Mr. Shbeilat's attempt to outbid the government."

"This is not the way to handle such matters and it is not the way to serve the country," Mr. Obeidat said. He said the interior minister's answer was clear to Mr. Shbeilat's enquiry "but that does not mean that there are no Jordanians arrested in friendly or not friendly countries."

Mr. Shbeilat retorted: "If the government included in its answer that it knew about the subject we would have remained silent."

Thursday's session included the endorsement of a number of provisional laws and elected deputies for new committees to study other laws.

Deputies aired suggestions which included the amendment of

the old elections law, the establishing of an appeals court in the Jordan Valley area, the improvement of teacher's conditions, the connection of certain areas in the Kingdom with public services and the lifting of traveller fees paid by students and labourers and those travelling for treatment abroad.

Deputy Salman Qudat suggested to refer the last suggestion to the House Administrative Committee.

Dr. Nawaiseh contended that "everyone knows that when an issue is referred to an Administrative Committee it means it is buried." He described the committee as a "cemetery."

The House then listened to decisions taken by the Financial Committee and the Legal Committee on various provisional laws then the session was adjourned until a date to be determined later.

IF YOU DO NOT NEED IT, WE DO

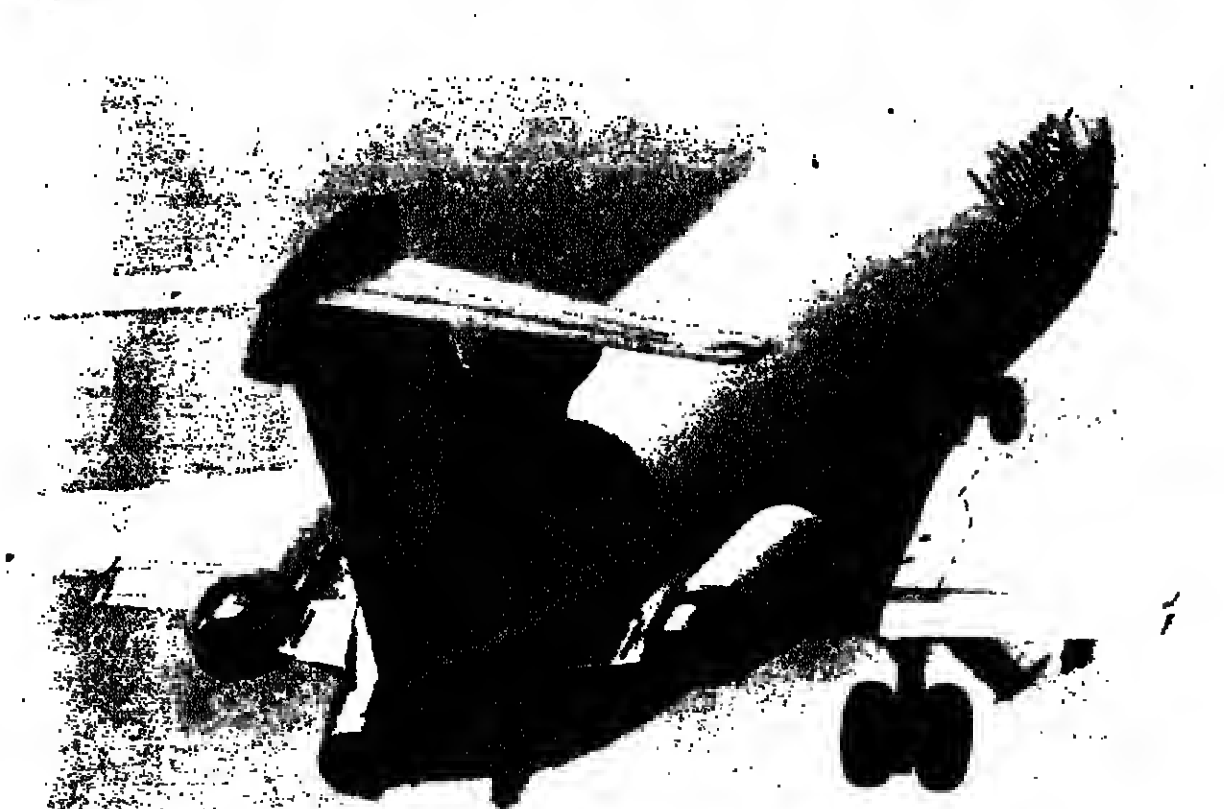
Social Cooperation Campaign

In order to extend our services and to assist those less fortunate than ourselves, the Social Cooperation Campaign requests everyone to donate clothes, furniture, household appliances, canned and packaged foodstuffs, materials and any other item which you do not want. We want it, we need it and we will use it to support our "Social Cooperation Campaign" in Jordan.

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The Sohmor massacre has its lessons too

By Gordon Roberts

THERE IS, of course, a far cheaper way of protecting U.S. embassies than by an expenditure of \$371 m. On the very day that the U.S. embassy in the eastern part of Beirut was so ignominiously blown up, a more serious event took place since it seemed less sensational than the carnage at the embassy, I am referring, of course, to the massacre of 13 defenceless villagers in Sohmar by soldiers of the South Lebanese Army (SLA), an act of naked terrorism if ever there was one.

Since the SLA is equipped, financed and trained by Israel, and operates under the general direction of the Israel Defence Force there is no conceivable way Israel could disclaim responsibility for what happened. It is, of course, responsible in any case quite simply because, even though Israel disavows a convention to which it is a signatory, the Fourth Geneva Convention regarding the protection of a civilian population under occupation is perfectly clear on this point. Therefore the words of Mr. Uri Lubrani, coordinator of

Israeli military activities in Lebanon, that the massacre was part of "the Lebanese landscape" ring hollow. Had Israel not created and used the SLA against the local population, this massacre would never have happened. More accurately, like Sabra and Shatilla, it is part of the Israeli occupation landscape.

If the Israelis had no inkling of the possibility of such a disaster one might be disposed to feel a shade more forgiving. But we know that the Israeli army in Lebanon must have been anticipating such an event, for on August 17 the Hebrew daily "Ha'aretz" reported: "Twice during the last week alone IDF forces had to return to areas they had already handed over to the SLA, because otherwise we might have witnessed a replay of Sabra and Shatilla". The scene of the massacre and the reasons for it may have come as a surprise, but the fact of the massacre by members of the SLA could not have done.

The SLA commander, General Antoine Lahad, has explained away this "aberration" as an emotional rather than a military response as if this explanation can comfort the dead or the fearful living any more than it could have comforted the victims of Sabra and Shatilla.

There remains a lurking suspicion that members of the SLA may actually have participated in Sabra and Shatilla. Although it was never established by any enquiry, early eye-witnesses to the massacre were told quite adamantly by survivors that some of the perpetrators were Haddad militia insignia, whilst others claimed that they heard the perpetrators talking with a "south Lebanese accent". True, they may actually have been Falangists or members of the Lebanese Forces from the Sidon area, some of whom have boasted quite openly of their deeds to foreign visitors. But we also know that some members of these groups, along with members of the "Guardians of the Cedars", which has openly incited the Lebanese of the South to commit genocide against the Palestinians in the area, have been absorbed into the South Lebanese Army.

What would be the consequences of a replay of Shatilla? Could the present Israeli government of national unity, and in particular its Labour membership, survive the shock waves of popular demonstrations in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem on even half the scale of those after Sabra and Shatilla? This time it would not be Begin and Sharon appearing as the ogres of the piece, but those portrayed internationally as the moderates in Israeli politics, Peres and his defence minister, Rabin.

What has all this to do with protecting U.S. embassies from attack? Quite simply this, that ever since Israel invaded Lebanon the U.S. could not remain neutral because it alone had the power to restrain Israel. In 1978 President Carter used that power. In 1982 President Reagan refrained from exercising that power and this in the minds of most Arabs was not neutrality, but a clear position in favour of the Israeli invasion. Brokerage of the ill-fated May 17 agreement, whereby the U.S. hoped to exclude Syria from a settlement in Lebanon (but force it to accept the outcome), and the bombing of civilian as well as military targets in Syrian and Druze held territory was further evidence in Arab eyes of *Pax Hebraica* and *Pax Americana* in the Middle East being virtually synonymous. The recent U.S. veto of Lebanon's security council resolution concerning Israel's measures of repression in South Lebanon was only the most recent proof that the U.S., whether for reasons of domestic or international policy, continues to remain firmly identified with Israel's adventure in South Lebanon. Yet, the Reagan administration seems unable to comprehend the message behind the repeated and bloody attacks on the U.S. presence there.

It is in this context that every atrocity or other act of repression in South Lebanon, committed either by Israel or by its surrogates in the area, will in part be laid at America's door. In his present strong position in the presidential race Reagan can afford, despite what his advisers may tell him, to respect the lives of U.S. servants overseas (as well as those of innocent Lebanese and Palestinian

civilians) more than the number of votes he needs, and to tell the new Israeli government quite firmly that the South Lebanon Army is a failed policy, that it can never be acceptable to the overwhelming majority of people in South Lebanon, and that it must be disbanded before it does more damage to both the U.S. and to Israel. Were other Western governments, those of the EEC for example, to join in that effort now of persuading Israel to act in its own best interest by jettisoning the SLA, both the U.S. and Europe could prepare the ground for the U.N. Security Council Debate on the future of Unifil due to take place on Oct. 19, with the hope that all parties could agree on a widened mandate for UNIFIL unfettered by the SLA.

If the U.S. could be seen to have achieved this modest step for the ordinary people of South Lebanon, for whom the SLA is such a loathsome thorn, U.S. diplomatic personnel abroad could sleep a good deal more easily in their beds. — Middle East International, London.

other country on this globe, or increase even further the scale of aid to Israel, if the latter were to survive and retain its current subsidised standard of living. Given the difficulties that any administration and Congress must face on the issue of increasing foreign aid, it is not difficult to conclude that the United States will continue to support Israel's occupation of Arab lands.

This conclusion is borne out by U.S. support for Israel before, during and after the invasion of Lebanon. Indeed, according to the General Accounting Office in its June 1983 report to Congress on U.S. assistance to Israel, the U.S. government's own reports on Israeli aid requests indicate that the increased aid and better terms sought by Israel include compensation for its losses during the invasion of Lebanon. Furthermore, the continued occupation of Lebanon, estimated to cost Israel close to \$400 million per year, is financed at least in part by the flow of aid from the U.S. government. The same, of course, can be said of the Israeli government's settlement policies in the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights — Midwest Monitor, Belmont, Massachusetts.

U.S. aid to Israel is an extremely important source of subsidy to the Israeli economy. Private contributions have amounted to \$17 billion since 1949, or about 40 per cent of the total aid flow from the United States to Israel. A major portion of this private assistance comes out of the American taxpayer's pocket, since these contributions are tax-exempt.

And yet, despite this heavy inflow of private and government foreign assistance, Israel is one of the most heavily indebted economies in the world. According to recent data published by the Wall Street Journal, Israel's external debt is \$29.3 billion, or about 116 per cent of its gross national product — the second highest in the world, after the Ivory Coast. Israel's per capita foreign debt is also the second highest in the world. What has enabled Israel to coast along for so many years has been the continued massive infusion of U.S. aid into its economy. American assistance constitutes close to 17 per cent of Israel's GNP, one third of its merchandise imports, 60 per cent of its trade deficit, 50 per cent of its budget. Simply put, were U.S. aid to Israel cancelled, Israel would be bankrupt, and its economy would collapse. The implications of U.S. aid to Israel were captured by Joseph Harsch when he wrote:

"The American taxpayer is paying for Israel's living standard, for its wars, for its conquests, and for those settlements which are going up throughout the occupied Arab territories in violation of the agreement which former President Carter thought he had with Prime Minister Menachem Begin."

Nor is the end of ever-rising U.S. aid to Israel in sight. So long as Israel continues to have budget and balance of payments deficits, and mounting external debt, Israel will have to continue to depend on U.S. aid for its survival. Indeed, U.S. aid has become something of a revolving fund that Israel needs in order to pay past obligations. In short, Israel's dependence on the United States is not only significant, but has become essential.

This last observation brings us full circle to the economic benefits of occupation. Without the occupied territories the Israeli economy would suffer a severe blow. This would in turn force the United States to face two unpleasant options: either abandon the state of Israel to fend for itself like any

other country on this globe, or increase even further the scale of aid to Israel, if the latter were to survive and retain its current subsidised standard of living. Given the difficulties that any administration and Congress must face on the issue of increasing foreign aid, it is not difficult to conclude that the United States will continue to support Israel's occupation of Arab lands.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Initiatives feed none

THE LARGE number of peace initiatives for the Middle East both International and Arab have not resulted in any thing practical which can take the Palestinian question out of the state of jeopardy it is currently suffering from.

The reasons behind the failure of such initiatives, including the clumsy Reagan initiative, are the Israeli continuous rejection of such initiatives and the bad Arab situation, which made them unable to provide the powers capable of pushing the Palestinian question forward along the path of a just solution.

The Palestinians have expressed their agreement to the Soviet peace initiative and have not rejected Fez proposals, yet their position did not preclude freezing it.

The Palestinian question does not need more initiatives, but is in need of a new Arab situation capable of putting an end to the American indifference and Israeli intransigence which aborted all peace initiatives in the area. Hence, the only solution to this problem lies in building self Arab force, which is an indispensable means for getting the Palestinian question out of the state of jeopardy it is passing through.

It is time the Arabs learn that initiatives are no longer capable of settling the Palestinian question and that the only way for them to establish just peace and find an honourable solution to the Palestinian question is through mobilising their resources and building their self force.

Al Dustour: No justification attempt

THE ASSURANCES by Prime Minister Ahmad Obelad on Thursday before the Lower House members that Jordan sticks to its principled stand vis-a-vis Camp David accords, concluded in 1979 between the then President of Egypt Anwar Al Sadat and the then Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, were not an attempt by the Prime Minister to explain dimensions of the Jordanian decision on restoration of diplomatic relations with Egypt, neither do they signify a response to accusations and campaigns of smearing launched against Jordan by some Arab regimes. They were a reminder of the bases and principles on which Jordan has based the decisions.

These firm bases always take into consideration the security of the area and its inhabitants, in addition to the rights of its people to live in freedom and dignity. Moreover, it gives high consideration to the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and practice self-determination. These bases have made Jordan the spearhead of any efforts to build real Arab solidarity and to build strong and balanced Arab relations.

For all these reasons Jordan has taken a well-studied decision to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt and to help it get out of its isolation.

It is hoped that Jordan's long-sighted decision can serve as an example to be followed by all Arabs with a view to achieving Arab solidarity and thus enabling them to restore their usurped rights.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: The language of force

THE PALESTINIAN resistance has recently escalated its attacks on the Israeli forces inside the occupied Arab territories. This escalation is a natural result of Israel's continued disregard to the Palestinian rights and the building of settlements on Arab land. It is a direct outcome of the continued Israeli arbitrary measures against the Arab people and the drive to evict them from their homeland.

We are certain that the intimidation and the terrorist actions against the resistance will only enhance the Arab struggle against occupation.

The Lebanese resistance has succeeded in forcing the Israeli forces, occupying southern Lebanon, to decide to withdraw from that territory. This resistance through its intensified attacks against the Israeli troops was able to force the leaders of Israel to change their policies. Why can't this course of action against the Zionists succeed in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip?

We believe that the Israelis will understand the language of force and they will finally succumb under the blows of the resistance, and recognise the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

Al Dustour: Losing the oil power

THE ARABS have to blame themselves for the current bad world oil market because they had in the past adopted a policy of increasing oil production to swamp the markets, and later spent the revenues extravagantly without any consideration for the future. The oil is like any other commodity and its price is subject to demand and supply. When OPEC countries which are mainly Arab, were increasing their production of oil, the industrialised nations were storing the imported oil for the future, and now in the view of the oil glut, no one seems to be interested in buying so much oil, and therefore the prices went down.

Within 10 years the oil weapon which the Arabs had used has now been directed against themselves. When the Arabs were wise in exploiting their oil and natural resources, they were able to impose their will on Europe and the world, but they seem to have lost this power now, and therefore, they have no more influence.

The oil which is supposed to be a source of income for the Arabs has now turned to be a burden on the shoulders of the producing countries. The industrialised countries have succeeded in banding the energy policy very skillfully. They took measures aimed at reducing their dependence on Arab oil by storing oil and finding alternatives, and succeeded in cutting down oil prices.

Sawt Al Shaab: The way to aspired unity

THE VISIT to Egypt by Crown Prince Hassan was a further proof of the need for both countries, Jordan and Egypt, to come together and launch cooperation in all fields.

Egypt and Jordan have realised before others that the concept of solidarity should be based on joint cooperation and joint action, and thus they took steps in this direction. The joint communique issued at the end of Prince Hassan's visit to Egypt reflects the two countries orientation in the present circumstances. The communique said both sides agreed on cooperation in economic, trade, cultural, scientific and technological fields and called for real efforts for the exploitation of natural resources in sea and land.

Perhaps this is the way which other Arab states should follow if they are really interested in achieving their aspired unity in the end.

Israel's economy survives with U.S. aid, conquest

By Abbas Alnasrawi

THE ISRAELI economy is unique among the economies of the world in its consistent reliance for its survival on two sources of support: the inflow of foreign aid from outside its borders, and the systematic acquisition of Palestinian economic resources through conquest, confiscation, and ultimately colonisation. Without these two sources of support the Israeli economy, and by extension Israeli society, would be entirely different. Let us address the importance of each of these two sources.

From its very inception Zionist colonisation of Palestine was dependent on the inflow of funds through the Jewish National Fund. The Fund provided the necessary financial resources to acquire land as a first step in attracting Jewish immigrants to Palestine. The policy of boycotting Arab labour by restricting employment to Jews was considered necessary to maintain wage rates comparable to those prevailing in Europe, in order to encourage more European Jews to immigrate to Palestine. Another form of foreign aid was extended to Zionist enterprises by the British authorities in the form of protection extended to the newly created industries. Coupled with the Zionist policy of boycotting Arab labour, the net effect of British-sponsored trade protection was to displace more Arab workers from their traditional occupations and increase the ranks of the unemployed.

Parallel with the various forms of private and government foreign aid, the state of Israel was created at the expense of the 90 per cent of the Arab population who were driven from their homes in 1947-48. The Palestinian community, which was transformed into a community of refugees, provided the very economic foundation upon which the state of Israel was constructed: its farmland, houses, shops, infrastructure and all other Palestinian assets were converted to serve the needs of the newly created economy. As Don Peretz observed:

"Abandoned property was one of the greatest contributions toward making Israel a viable state ... Of the 370 new Jewish settlements established between 1948 and the beginning of 1953, 350 were on absentee property. In 1954, more than one third of Israel's Jewish population lived on absentee property and nearly one third of the new immigrants (250,000 people) settled in urban areas abandoned by Arabs. They (the Palestinian refugees) left whole cities like Jaffa, Acre, Lydda, Ramleh, Beisan, Migdal-Gad, 388 towns and villages and large parts of 94 other cities and towns, containing nearly a quarter of all the buildings in Israel. Ten thousand shops, businesses and stores were left in Jewish hands."

Given the difficulties that any administration and Congress must face on the issue of increasing foreign aid, it is not difficult to conclude that the United States will continue to support Israel's occupation of Arab lands.

Foreign aid has, of course, continued to flow into Israel to this day. In addition to confiscated Palestinian wealth, private contributions from overseas and reparations from Germany helped the Israeli economy to coast along and to grow almost until the 1967 War. The significance of foreign aid for the growth of the Israeli economy was highlighted by a World Bank report stating that the achievement of the Israeli economy would have been impossible without the relatively large and continuous inflow of foreign capital, both private and public.

The 1967 War provided Israel with the opportunities and resources to reverse its deteriorating economy. Once again the acquisition of Palestinian resources provided the Israeli economy with a much needed shot in the arm. The economic benefits of the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza were supplemented, of course, by the economic benefits of the occupation of the Sinai and the Golan Heights. The new frontiers

of the Israeli economy supported an expansion that carried Israeli society up to the October War of 1973. That war revealed for the first time since Israel's creation in 1948 the limits of its economic and military powers.

It was in the aftermath of the October War that the U.S. government decided to increase its aid to Israel drastically. This policy of massive aid to Israel has continued to this day. The magnitude of the rise can be seen by comparing aid to Israel before and after the October War. For the 10-year period between 1964 and 1973, U.S. aid to Israel (economic and military grants and loans) averaged \$198 million per year. By contrast, for the decade 1974 to 1983 U.S. aid averaged \$2.2 billion, or 11 times the amount dispensed in the earlier period. To put U.S. aid during the last decade in a different perspective: Of the \$25.3 billion in U.S. aid to Israel since its creation, 88 per cent was provided during the 10-year period 1974 to 1983. In addition to this annually approved subsidy by Congress, there are other forms of aid, such as private, tax-exempt contributions, preferential treatment for Israeli exports to the United States, and the Soviet Jewish Settlement

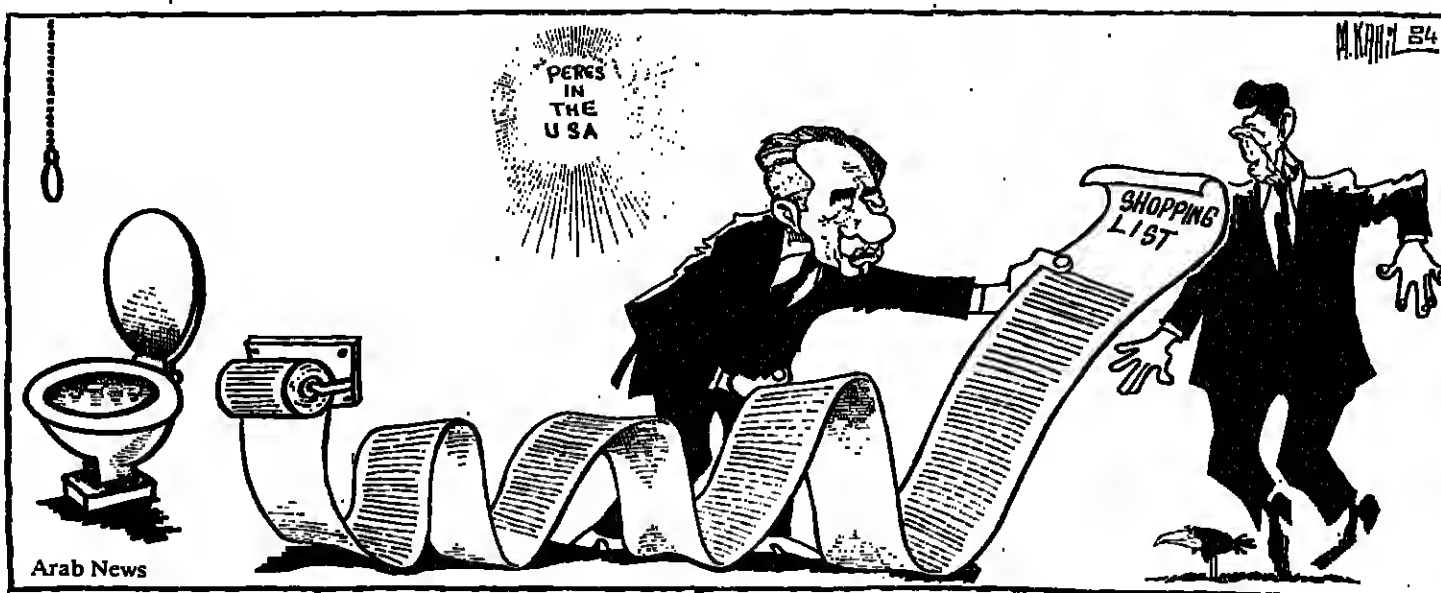
Fund. In particular, American private assistance to Israel is an extremely important source of subsidy to the Israeli economy. Private contributions have amounted to \$17 billion since 1949, or about 40 per cent of the total aid flow from the United States to Israel. A major portion of this private assistance comes out of the American taxpayer's pocket, since these contributions are tax-exempt.

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"The American taxpayer is paying for Israel's living standard, for its wars, for its conquests, and for those settlements which are going up throughout the occupied Arab territories in violation of the agreement which former President Carter thought he had with Prime Minister Menachem Begin."

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Central American conflicts linger in wake of peace talks

By Soli Sussman
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte and leftist rebel leaders' historic meeting last week placed a new twist on developments in turbulent Central America — no matter how far off actual peace may be.

Nicaragua's leftist government immediately rejected the idea of following suit with negotiations with U.S.-supported, anti-Sandinista rebels there, but the fact remains the Salvadoran meeting set a precedent — that attempts can be made to break long stalemates.

It also comes at a time when the 21-month-old Contadora mediation group appears to be drawing towards close of its fragile peace, document for the region.

After the meeting in the northern village of La Palma on Oct. 15, in a country carnival atmosphere, both Mr. Duarte and the rebels cautioned that much remains to be done before any breakthrough can be achieved in resolving the five-year-old civil war.

Yet Central America being a region of sharp ups and downs in politics and war, it can never be taken for granted that a period of relative peace or optimism may last.

Here is a look at the current situation in El Salvador and re-

crussions the talks may have in the region's four other countries. Government and rebel leaders agreed at La Palma to meet again sometime in the second half of November, as well as to form an eight-member commission with a mediator from the Roman Catholic Church to study the issues raised.

The Oct. 15 meeting was the first top-level session since the start of the war five years ago that has claimed some 59,000 lives.

The suddenness with which it was arranged and the lack of violence, despite a startling lack of security, gave some indication of a real willingness for peace no matter how long and hard the actual negotiations may be.

Mr. Duarte, a moderate Christian Democrat who was inaugurated June 1 as the head of the U.S.-supported government, took the initiative in calling for the encounter.

Three days after the meeting, guerrillas warned all traffic to stay off the roads and the on-again, off-again violence of the long fight appeared to be back to normal. Ultra-conservative leader Roberto D'Aubuisson denounced the meeting as "buffoonery," giving still more indication of how complex and difficult it will be to bring an end to the war here.

After La Palma, Sandinista government Coordinator Daniel Ortega said the situation here "is

very different" from that in El Salvador. He said here the United States "has created an artificial force that does not have a social base" while the Salvadoran war is a result of social conflict.

While promising free general elections, Mr. Ortega gave no indication the government is willing to sit down with the rebels operating sporadically on southern and northern fronts.

A furor over a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) manual on psychological warfare produced for the rebels now threatens to spotlight the U.S. role as much as the mining of Nicaraguan harbours did last spring.

Meanwhile, the Sandinistas appear in no danger of losing the grip on power they took in July 1979 after the ouster of pro-American, rightist dictator Anastasio Somoza.

They certainly will not lose the elections for president, vice-president and a 90-member assembly in which they are competing against six minor parties. The main opposition coalition, the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinator, is boycotting the election because it says free elections are impossible under the restrictions on the press, the right to public gatherings and other conditions maintained by the Sandinistas.

The Reagan administration says its support for the Nicaraguan

rebels is justified because of the Sandinistas' close ties to Cuba and the Soviet Union and their alleged effort to spread revolution elsewhere in the region.

The poorest nation in an impoverished region, Honduras has become the bulwark for the American military buildup in Central America.

Since January 1982, when President Roberto Suazcordova was inaugurated as the first civilian president in more than a decade, Honduras became the scene of almost continuous U.S. military exercises, a training centre for Salvadoran troops and a staging area for the largest group of CIA-supported Nicaraguan rebels.

Most took place while Gen. Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, an arch anti-Communist who was considered the most powerful man in the country, controlled the armed forces. He was ousted and sent out of the country by his disgruntled officers last spring, and since then a re-evaluation of Honduran commitment with the United States has started.

Although the government has announced Salvadoran troops will no longer be trained at the U.S.-built centre at Puerto Castilla it is unlikely that any fundamental change in the American-Honduran relationship will develop.

Costa Rica, long considered a showcase of democracy and neu-

trality in Latin America, a financial crisis here raised concern two years ago that the violence elsewhere in the region could spread to Costa Rica.

But the situation appears to have calmed, with the only lingering tension along the Nicaraguan border because of the activities of Nicaraguan rebels. The government asked the Contadora

Group last week to send observers to confirm its position that Costa Rica does not allow its territory to be used for actions against Nicaragua.

Costa Rica does not have an army. The United States has increased its shipments of military equipment to the Civil Guard and Rural Guard, which serve as the country's only security forces.



Towards attaining meaningful information action



Talking straight
Marwan Muasher

TWO STATEMENTS made by two of our prominent ministers caught my eyes recently. Information Minister Laif Sharaf, in an address to the Arab Information Ministers' meeting in Tunis last week, called on Arab countries to end their "slogan campaign" and embark on meaningful information action. And, during a parliamentary debate also last week, acting Information Minister Suleiman Arar asserted that the government does not censor the press.

One should not take statements such as these lightly. For other than being positive developments, if only in words, in the government's relationship with the media, they represent a challenge, both to the government to keep its word, and to the media, to live up to a more meaningful and serious role.

It is rather obvious, or should be, that the "slogan campaign" practised by Arab countries is also practised in Jordan, albeit to different and lesser extents than some other Arab countries, and that this practice is carried out often by official institutions. The minister's call, then, should not only be seen as a criticism against other Arabs, but also as a self-assessment of a present situation that exists not in some abstract Arab country, but in Jordan itself. That such statements are coming from the information minister, the one person in charge of all the media in Jordan, is very significant in itself. I sense an admission that there is a lot to be done in the field of information in Jordan, and that some, if not all, of the shortcomings in this regard are the government's responsibility, especially when one considers that it is in direct charge of two of media's most important podiums, namely radio and television.

The freedom of speech is something that has been talked about frequently in Jordan by people of all sorts. The one conclusion that they have all drawn, whether laymen or officials, is that speech in Jordan is not free. So that we do not keep talking in generalities, thus beclouding an issue of major concern of Jordanians, I suggest the following steps are considered to ensure, as Mrs. Sharaf demanded, that we do embark, if not immediately, on a meaningful information action:

— That the government instructs TV to broadcast all parliamentary sessions. In order not to interrupt regular TV programming, such broadcasts could take place in the morning, when no other programmes are shown on TV. Such a practice is common in many countries throughout the world. It would serve to allow those interested a shot at seeing how parliament works, would educate the public on the parliamentary process, would publicise parliament's activities, and would allow the chance for people to monitor the actions of their elected representatives.

People would have the chance to see and hear their government being criticised, a healthy diversion from the regular praise in newspapers and on TV. TV coverage can sometimes backfire, as deputies might tend to lengthen their speeches in order to gain publicity. In the end, however, I think it will make them more active, better prepared, and would certainly minimise absences from parliamentary sessions.

That the government (if parliament does not do it first) revokes the current journalism law, which gives it a Carte Blanche to revoke the licence of any publication any time it pleases. There can be no "meaningful information action" if journalists, or anyone for that matter, do not feel the freedom

to express themselves publicly. Admittedly, it is not easy to ask the government to stand at the other side of the judge's table after so many years of unchecked power. But there can be no real improvement in the quality of our newspapers in particular, and in the cultural and political evolution of our society in general, while laws such as the one above continue to exist.

— That the state-run radio and TV stations carry other than just the state's view, both in domestic and international affairs. It is rather ironic that Jordanians often turn to foreign media sources in order to know what is happening in their own country. It is time we acknowledge that, however subtle at times, we too have slogan campaigns. It escapes my mind how a news item as important as the resignation of a parliamentary member is not carried immediately by our TV

or radio news bulletins. We cannot keep calling for improving the quality of man and life in Jordan while denying the chance to improve man's intellectual abilities.

— So that we do not keep always blaming the government, I believe our newspapers have to take the initiative in playing a more serious role than they have hitherto shown. A newspaper is no doubt found to make profit, but it is more than just a profit-making institution.

Almost all attempts, at least in Jordan, to establish newspapers came from people who had some commitment, other than purely monetary, to writing and journalism. It is a newspaper's duty thus to be much bolder in discussing the country's affairs. It is no secret that most newspapers' editors, writers and journalists are much more critical of the government in private than they

are willing to commit themselves to in public. In fact, somehow all this criticism is often transformed into empty praise, or at best a mild, almost apologetic form of scolding. It is obvious that our newspapers too, for one reason or the other, are contributing, and heavily so, towards the lack of a meaningful information action.

The achievement of a better quality of information in Jordan is a responsibility to be shouldered by more than one sector: By a government that follows its words with concrete actions, by a media that is not afraid to discuss the country's affairs with fairness but also frankness, by a parliament that ensures people attain their right to freedom of thought and expression, and by a public who, in the middle of all this mess, is ever pressed hard to try to come out with meaningful information out of slogans and distorted realities.

Black S.Africans given deadly asbestos

By Arik Bachar
Reuter

MAFEFE, South Africa — The black peasant seemed proud of his new thatched home in the remote mountains of South Africa and oblivious of the possibility that it could turn into his family's death chamber.

The round hut is plastered with asbestos waste dumped by mining companies in the middle of black communities. Developed countries are increasingly fearful about the health hazards of the mineral.

"The thatch and asbestos are strong, the house will last for 20 years," said the man as he put the finishing touches to the hut in the village, nestled in the rolling hills of Lebowa homeland in the Northern Transvaal.

Medical experts believe that in 20 years his family, constantly exposed to the fibrous material, could be fighting a losing battle against lung cancer.

The numerous dumps littering the lush countryside are the targets of environmentalists who accuse mining companies, among them until recently multi-nationals based in the United States and Britain, of disregard for

the lives of blacks in the impoverished homeland.

The Black Allied Mining and Construction Workers' Union (BAMCWU) this month launched a campaign to close the entire asbestos industry in South Africa, saying hundreds of miners had died of asbestos-related diseases.

The union, supported by medical experts, said that although official statistics were being kept under wraps, many more residents of mining communities had suffered lung damage caused by the mineral.

Research over the past 20 years has established direct links between inhalation of asbestos fibre and lung cancer and developed nations have ordered massive reductions in the use of the heat-resistant material.

But in Lebowa, a homeland created by Pretoria under its racial segregation policies, mining continues and dumps left uncovered by companies are still being used by villagers to build homes and pave roads.

South Africa, which sold 187,000 tons last year, is the world's third largest asbestos producer after the Soviet Union and Canada and mining companies here are under increasing pressure

from ecological groups to reduce the risks posed by the mineral. Health organisations say that up to 200,000 blacks live dangerously close to mines in Lebowa and allege that measures taken so far are insufficient to cope with the problem.

In Krom Ellenboog 500 children study at a primary school in the shadow of a huge dump created by the now-abandoned mining process.

Local villagers say the only attempt to remove health hazards was an advice to hose the school's playground every morning to reduce the amount of dust. But water pumps have been out of order for weeks.

Pat Hart, managing director of GEFCO Ltd. which bought the dormant mine in 1981, told Reuters his company had embarked on a programme to eradicate the danger.

"I expect the dump will be completely covered within a couple of months," he said. There was no visible sign of activity at the mine and three black watchmen said they had strict orders to prevent entry by reporters "who come to scandalise the company," as they put it. Elsewhere in Lebowa local chil-

dren have been instructed brick producers to stop using asbestos, traditionally a major source of building material together with mud. The cost of building houses has risen dramatically: asbestos bricks had been the cheapest construction material.

For the local population, struggling to eke a meagre living in the under-developed area and more concerned with feeding families today than with health problems many years away, the campaign against asbestos poses a dilemma.

Petrus Katadi worked at the Penge mine for 43 years until 1980 when he was discharged after doctors discovered he was suffering from asbestosis, the most common illness caused by the mineral. He received 1,500 rand (\$900) compensation.

But in an area with high unemployment, people are reluctant to see jobs lost because of scientific evidence many of them cannot understand. Pandelani Nefelovhodwe, BAMCWU secretary-general, says economic considerations should be removed from the debate about asbestos. "The choice we have is between jobs and life."

Why so angry at the Mafia now?

The Italian Interior Minister, Mr. Oscar Scalfaro, speaking in Washington after the first meeting of the new joint committee to combat the drugs trade, said that Tommaso Buscetta, the Mafia informant, would almost certainly be sent to the United States for interrogation. The U.S. Attorney-General, Mr. William French Smith, described the organised crime arrests in Italy and the United States as the "most devastating blow to hit the Mafia in many years". The Justice Department, acting under a new extradition treaty with Italy, has ordered the arrest of 28 Americans in connection with the Italian crackdown. Most are thought to be closely involved in the alleged "Pizza Connection," a network of pizza parlours across the United States which have been used for importing and distributing drugs. Campbell Page reports from Rome.



Tommaso Buscetta under arrest

TOMMASO BUSCETTA, the Mafia informant, whose disclosures are keeping the police busy in Italy, the U.S., Canada, and Brazil, announced his decision to break the code of silence with true Mafia understatement: "I am not your adversary," he told two Italian magistrates, who spoke to him in June shortly before his extradition from Brazil to Italy.

The magistrates looked at each other in astonishment. At that instant one of the best known and best-informed Mafia bosses had declared, "I am ready to talk."

As a result of Buscetta's decision, 366 warrants have been issued in Italy and a first batch of 29 in the U.S. Investigators have been given a detailed picture of Mafia personnel and structure, its responsibility for murder and serious crime, and its part in the transatlantic drugs trade.

Mr. Craxi, the prime minister, sees an opportunity to strike at the heart of the Mafia. The Minister of the Interior, Mr. Scalfaro, is more guarded. Speaking from the U.S. where he is working with the Americans in the joint fight against organised crime, he criticised those who believed that nothing could be done against the Mafia and those who thought that the present operation would solve every problem.

Two points are worth making: the brazen reply so often given by tainted politicians or mayors, or criminals — "Mafia? There's no such thing. It's an invention of the press and imaginative North Italians" — has seemed hollow for many years.

The Mafia as a vague survival of the means chosen by a harsh agricultural society to regulate its affairs during centuries of foreign domination has survived, and even in the last 20 years, least of all the Palermo magistrates who have lost colleagues to violence and themselves live secluded lives with bodyguards and bullet-proof screens at home and at work.

The second point is that in the battle between the Italian state and organised crime the winner is often hard to discern.

The Italian state is generally regarded as weak, and the legal system is often ponderous. There are great variations among the regions in the exercise of power, the penetration of organised crime and the norms of daily behaviour, an inhabitant of Bolzano, the provincial capital of South Tyrol, and a citizen of Naples or Palermo would both experience profound cultural shock if they exchanged homes.

That means that the battle between the state and organised crime is rather like Waterloo as seen by a participant: there is smoke, noise and confusion, and a great difficulty in deciding who is getting the upper hand.

Last year the issue of 856 warrants against the Naples-based Camorra reduced violence but has certainly not ended spectacular murder and widespread extortion. Just before this most recent drive the Mafia, public opinion had been worried by the reduced terms of remand imprisonment and the prospect of Mafia suspects returning to the streets of Palermo in increasing numbers.

It had also been aware of the danger of weakness and corruption in the judiciary itself. On the other hand, public opinion and the Church in Sicily have joined the Communists in outspoken cri-

ticism of organised crime.

The La Torre law, which enables the authorities to investigate the bank accounts and business dealings of Mafia suspects and to confiscate assets, have wounded the Mafia. At the same time, the Mafia took care to move many of its assets beyond the reach of the law. There is an overall impression of an unfinished game with ladders extended hopefully and very slippery snakes.

Buscetta's disclosures will have to find their place in this tug of forces. He and the investigators know that the heart of the Mafia is a moving target which calls for luck as well as marksmanship.

In his interviews with the magistrates, Buscetta has given a diagram of Mafia organisation: first the families, in the sense of bands of criminals working a particular area, next the provincial councils, and finally an inter-provincial council, which settles territorial differences and ratifies the planning of the most important crimes.

The notorious murder of a public figure, the Carabinieri general, Dalla Chiesa, sent to Palermo to begin a real onslaught against the Mafia, was a brutal response by organised crime. There was also a political view that he had become too difficult. It was carried out by the Catania Mafia as a favour to the Corleone Mafia.

Buscetta has denied the close link between the Mafia and organised crime in Naples and in Cal-

abria. The drugs trade is a much more remunerative extension of the traditional Mafia network for cigarette smuggling, with very active links in the U.S. The flood of drugs profit has transformed the Mafia and brought bitter rivalries inside it.

According to Pino Arlacchi, a leading academic authority on organised crime, Buscetta chose to talk not simply because close relatives had been murdered in the civil war within the Mafia. This exaggerated picture of an orderly Mafia world acting on its own principles had collapsed. His decision came perhaps "from a sudden realisation of what the Mafia really is: not an orderly and predictable cosmos, but a savage arena in which everyone has a right to do whatever he wants."

Buscetta has not given direct information about the so-called third level of the Mafia, the politicians, businessmen, and professional men who straddle organised crime and the legitimate world. The Palermo magistrates say that he has provided some clues, which might be useful. Sicilian politics, with the huge patronage of regional funds and contracts at stake, has always been a turbulent and questionable game.

The historical records show that Mussolini's onslaught crippled the Mafia because there was no part for political intermediaries. It was a simple matter of ruthless cops against astonished robbers — The Guardian.

Human growth drug provokes ethical debate

By Gene Emory
Reuter

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island — Discovery of ways to mass produce the hormone needed for normal growth in humans has raised a major ethical problem — should children be given drugs to make them taller?

There is little evidence that the hormone will work in healthy children whose bodies produce normal amounts of growth hormone. But some researchers predict the development will put pressure on doctors to give it to children who seem destined for hereditary reasons to be below normal in height.

According to Dr. Philip Grupp, a pediatrician and biochemist with Brown University's medical school here, the pressure has already begun. He says parents of small children are already inquiring about the hormone.

Until now, treatment with growth hormone has been restricted to children whose pituitary glands cannot make enough of it. The number treated has been limited because the hormone had to be extracted from pituitary glands taken from corpses.

But new genetic engineering techniques will soon make the hormone widely available.

Another researcher predicting pressure on doctors is Dr. Louis Underwood, who wrote recently in the New England Journal of Medicine:

"In a society that values tallness ... it is anticipated that much of that pressure will come from parents whose children, although not truly short, are not fulfilling parental expectations in competitive sports, social interaction and academic achievement."

Physicians will be forced to decide whether it is appropriate to

tamper with a normal child in the hope of making him or her "better."

Dr. Underwood also said he had seen a "recent flurry of interest in growth hormone on the part of athletes who hope that treatment will increase their strength, athletic performance and even their height."

Researchers say the hormone will not increase a person's height once he or she reaches maturity. In addition, it has not been proven that the hormone will increase the height of any normal child, said Dr. Ivor Jackson of Rhode Island Hospital, because it "has not been given to short statured children (for) long enough."

Such tests are difficult, he said, "because it's not uncommon for a child to be three or four inches (7.6 or 10.1 cms) taller than their parents," making it difficult to tell whether the hormone really helped or not.

Even if the treatment did work for normal children, they raise ethical questions because the treatments must begin at a very early age, last for years and involve painful injections.

Also, some children may, in retrospect, not need treatment. "Some children have a growth spurt at puberty," said Dr. Jackson.

There are also lingering questions of whether the hormone will trigger the body's immune system to attack the natural form of the hormone produced by the body and whether additional growth will cause subtle deformities or brittle bones, he said.

Still, Dr. Underwood reported, researchers were anxious to test the hormone on healthy children because "severe shortness of stature is not a trivial problem."

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World, Olympic champions miss New York marathon

NEW YORK (R) — Race director Fred Lebow calls it the Wimbledon of marathons. But if the New York marathon is that, it is Wimbledon without John McEnroe, Jimmy Connors and Ivan Lendl.

Still, it is something special — a 26-mile, 385-yard (42.195 kms) trek through New York's five boroughs by a field of 18,364 — second only to this year's London marathon — who will set off on Sunday morning from the Staten Island side of the Verrazano Bridge.

Both defending champions, Rod Dixon of New Zealand and Grete Waitz of Norway, will be present. But the race lacks the world's three top marathon runners and both world record-holders.

Missing will be Olympic Champion Carlos Lopes of Portugal, World Champion Rob de Castella of Australia, and American Alberto Salazar along with Britain's Steve Jones, who broke Salazar's world record in the America's marathon in Chicago last Sunday with a time of two hours eight minutes and five seconds.

Missing also is the women's Olympic champion and world record holder, Joan Benoit of the United States.

But in the eyes of the participants and the huge spectator throng, the absences will not diminish the glamour of one of the world's premier marathons.

Dixon said this week the New York marathon had "as certain magic, tradition, class" which rival races could not match. He is fav-

oured to retain the title on Sunday.

So is the 31-year-old Waitz. If she does, it would be the sixth time in seven years the former world record-holder has won the 15-year-old event, which began as a four-loop swing around Central Park with 126 contestants in 1970.

Neither will find it easy. Both the 14,850 men's and 3,515 women's fields include some strong world class challengers.

Among those on the men's side are Tanzania's Gidamis Shanga, winner of two marathons this year who was sixth last year after leading for 10 miles, and Kebede Balcha of Ethiopia, a three-time winner of the Montreal marathon and the world championship silver medalist last year in Helsinki.

Other strong contenders are Britain's John Graham, third in the 1980 race and seventh last year, and compatriot Mike Gratton, winner of last year's London marathon.

But if the recent trend is followed, the winner could well be an unknown — in marathon terms, Jones, a proven 10,000 metres runner, was in only his second marathon last Sunday and it was the first one he finished.

Waitz, the Olympic silver medalist who won the women's race last year by a decisive four minutes,

and 49 seconds, regards New Zealand's tiny Mary O'Connor and West Germany's Charlotte Teske as her strongest rivals.

Teske, 34, won the Boston and Frankfurt marathons last year and has broken 2:30 three times, a feat bettered only by Waitz.

Other threats are Ireland's Carey May, one of only 18 women to break 2:30, Italian Laura Fogli, second last year, Joyce Smith of Britain, 47-year-old winner of the 1981 and 1982 London marathons and 11th in the Olympics, and Finn Tuulja Toivonen.

For the first time, prize money will be publicly awarded, unlike in the past when winners and other leading finishers were paid secretly in addition to receiving "appearance" money.

After pressure from mayor Edward Koch, the top three in both fields will receive similar purses of \$25,000, along with cars valued at \$22,850. The runners-up and third place finishers will receive \$22,000 and \$18,000 respectively.

In addition, both the 34-year-old Dixon and Waitz will each receive at least \$10,000 in appearance money.

Total prize money will be \$273,800, \$149,300 allocated to the first 25 men and \$124,500 to the first 20 women.

Once again, the oldest will be 85-year-old Noel Johnson of San Diego, who got under five hours last year. Johnson, who took up long-distance running in his 70s, is the author of a book called "a dud at 70, a stud at 80."

Davis Cup final dates settled

LONDON (R) — The tussle over dates for the final of the Davis Cup between Sweden and the United States ended with the International Tennis Federation (ITF) announcing here Thursday it would be staged in Gothenburg from December 16-18.

An ITF spokeswoman said both countries were happy with the dates which resolved a wrangle that started earlier this month when the Americans protested about Sweden's original plan to hold the final from December 28-30.

The U.S. were unhappy because the dates fell between the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The ITF subsequently announced the final should be from December 16-18, and then adopted a more flexible approach by giving Sweden an extra four days to arrange it, between December 16-22.

But Rolf Levin, General Secretary of the Swedish Tennis Association, said the Swedes were "disappointed" with the dates.

He said the original dates proposed by Sweden (December 28-30) would have been an ideal time to stage the final and would have drawn a large crowd.

"The week before Christmas, which they have chosen, is the worst week of the year as far as the public is concerned with people trying to finish off their jobs and Christmas shopping," Levin said.

He added that the dates could also cause problems for the players, giving them very little time to adapt to the Swedish climate.

IAAF chief defends athletics Grand Prix

BRUSSELS (R) — International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) President Primo Nebiolo Thursday defended plans to set up a "Grand Prix" athletics circuit with \$500,000 of prizes as totally in keeping with the sport's amateur status.

Speaking to reporters after the IAAF finalised the scheme's details at its annual meeting here, Nebiolo stressed the award money would not go directly to athletes but would be paid into trust funds and could be drawn only under strict conditions.

"This does not mean that we will become professionals," he said. "There is a certain difference."

IAAF officials said the "Grand Prix" which will begin in San Jose, California on May 25, 1985 and end with a major final in Rome on Sept. 7, would be a way of bringing more order into the international calendar and iron out clashes that frequently occur between major meetings.

The officials said the idea behind the scheme was to select 16 top meetings in the United States, Western and Eastern Europe and encourage leading athletes to compete in all of them. At least one day would separate each of them from any other major events.

Nebiolo echoed remarks made by IAAF Secretary-General John Holt who denied that the move from "appearance money" to directly rewarding athletes for their

performance was another step towards professional athletics.

"All our athletes want to continue to be amateurs, but with their eyes open," Nebiolo added. "We live in 1984 and that is the reality we have to face."

The new system is based on points, with the winner of each event at a Grand Prix meeting getting nine points, the runner-up seven and so on down to one point for eighth place.

These points are added up and after the Rome final there is a \$10,000 prize for the winner, \$7,000 for second place with a scale down to 1,000 for sixth place in each event.

In addition, four male or female athletes with the highest number of points from any one event get extra awards from \$25,000 for the top place to \$5,000 for the fourth place.

Holt said discussion of the plan, announced by IAAF President Primo Nebiolo in Rome last month, had been carried out in close consultation with the International Olympic Committee, adding that the IAAF had laid down strict controls on how the award money could be spent.

Athletes would be able to draw from their trust fund for certain IAAF-recognised expenses, he said. Money left in the fund would be paid to the athlete at the end of his or her career.

"We've done away with the under the table stuff, it's all above board now," Holt said.

Zola Budd to stay in South Africa, papers say

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African runner Zola Budd, who competed as a British citizen in this year's Olympic Games, will forfeit an international athletics career and stay in South Africa, Johannesburg newspapers reported Friday.

"Zola has decided: She's staying in S.A.," the Star headlined its front-page story, while the Citizen said: "Zola won't go back to Britain."

Budd, 18, has family ties to Britain and took British citizenship,

enabling her to get round the international sporting boycott of South Africa for its racial segregation policies.

She returned to South Africa on holiday in August. The Citizen, which said its story came from a reliable source, said Budd's decision to stay here had probably cost her \$280,000 which the Daily Mail of London would have paid for her story.

Her contract with the Mail expires next week.

Connors, Lloyd start title defence with victory

HOUSTON (R) — Defending champions Chris Evert Lloyd and Jimmy Connors won through to the second round of the World Mixed Doubles Championships Thursday, but were not given an easy run by the brother and sister team of Laura and Pablo Arraya of Peru.

The Arrayas were surprisingly tough, but Lloyd and Connors earned breaks in the final game of

both sets to take the match 7-5, 6-4.

Lloyd and Connors will play Gabriela Sabatini and Jose-Luis Clerc of Argentina in the quarterfinals.

In other first-round action in the \$400,000 tournament Carling Bassett and Eric Korida of the U.S. easily defeated Raffaella Reggi of Italy and American Tim Mayotte 6-4, 6-1.

China to build 1990 Asian Games town

PEKING (R) — China will build a whole new town just north of Peking for the 1990 Asian Games, the New China News Agency said Friday.

Chinese designers and architects have drawn from the experience of the United States, Japan and Canada among other countries in building large sports complexes, it said.

It did not give an estimated cost of construction but said it would have about 20 big and medium-size stadiums as well as all other facilities such as housing, convention centres, restaurants, bars and shops.

The next Asian Games, in 1986, will be held in Seoul.

Amman Little League

Games Scores - Oct. 26

Tots	Joliff Red/White 1	Joliff Blue 0
Juniors		
Al Ahlia 4		Chase Manhattan 0
Peugeot 2		Arab Wings 1
Marriott 3		Grindlays 2
International Traders 0		Holiday Inn 0
Mids		
Lego 3		Jordan Express 1
ALICO 3		Goodyear 3
Astra 1		American Express 1
Intercon 2		Telecom 0
Seniors		
Foxboro 2		Ericsson 1
Volvo 3		Cairo Amman 3
Adults		
Arabs 5		ACS Students 0
Team USA 3		Yanks 0
Hisban 2		French 1
Brits 4		U.K. 0

Tots	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
Joliff Red/White	6	2	2	2	4	4	6
Joliff Blue	6	2	2	2	4	4	6
Juniors							
Al Ahlia	6	6	0	0	33	1	12
Grindlays	6	5	1	0	15	3	10
Chase Manhattan	6	3	2	1	7	8	7
Marriott	6	3	3	0	8	15	6
Peugeot	6	2	4	0	7	11	4
International Traders	6	1	4	1	1	9	3
Arab Wings	6	1	4	1	3	15	3
Holiday Inn	6	1	4	1	3	16	3
Mids							
ALICO	6	5	0	1	24	7	11
Goodyear	6	3	1	2	18	13	8
Lego	6	3	1	2	10	6	8
Intercon	6	3	2	1	19	6	7
Astra	6	3	2	1	13	9	7
American Express	6	1	3	2	6	17	4
Telecom	6	1	4	1	5	13	3
Jordan Express	6	0	6	0	2	26	0
Seniors							
Foxboro	6	2	4	0	3	9	7
Volvo	6	1	0	5	10	9	7
Ericsson	6	2	2	2	9	7	6
Cairo Amman	6	1	3	2	9	14	4
Adults							
Arabs	5	4	1	0	11	5	8
Brits	5	3	1	1	11	2	7
Hisban	5	3	1	1	10	7	7
Team USA	5	2	1	2	6	3	6
U.K.	5	3	2	0	11	10	6
French	5	2	3	0	9	10	4
ACS Students	5	1	4	0	6	13	2
Yanks	5	0	5	0	4	16	0

There will be regular League play next week. Games scheduled for Oct. 26 will be played on Nov. 2.

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(Colour)
Performances: 12.3 - 5.30-8

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(Colour)
3.30 6.00 8.30 10.30 p.m.

Cinema ZAHARAN
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THE CASE

(Colour)
Performances: 12.3 - 5.30-8

Cinema OPERA
UNCOMMON VALOUR

(Colour)
Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE
Tel: 22117
TRISHOOL
Indian

(Colour)
Performances: 12.3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN
Tel: 22198
THE BORDERS

(Colour)
Performances: 12.3-5.30-8

European Investment Bank grants WAJ \$6.5m credit

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Investment Bank has granted the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) a \$6.5 million loan to help finance the Ma'an and Madaba Water and sewerage projects.

WAJ Director General Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani said that the loan will be spent on building water treatment plants, sewerage systems and improving the water networks in both cities.

The overall cost of the project is expected to be \$25 million, and the World Bank together with the European Investment Bank are expected to supply half of this cost, while the rest will be covered by WAJ sources, Mr. Keilani said.

The European loan which carries an 8.25 per cent interest will be repaid over 15 years, Mr. Keilani added.

He said that the final designs for the whole project have been com-



Mohammad S. Keilani

pleted, and a tender will be announced early next year, but, he said, the work is not expected to be completed before the middle of 1986.

French export risk problem threatens Iraqi pipeline group

PARIS (R) — The French government has not yet decided to grant crucial political risk coverage to a French member of a Franco-Italian consortium contracted to build a pipeline from Iraq's oil fields to the Saudi Arabian port of Yanbu, government officials said.

Industry and government sources said that without such insurance Spie Capac, a subsidiary of Spie Batignolles, would almost certainly have to withdraw from the project.

"Spie Capac could not assume such a risk by itself," a well informed industry source said. That in turn would pose serious problems for all consortium members in France and Italy.

In Baghdad, a senior Iraqi oil official said the project, which began on Oct. 1 and is due to be completed in 11 months, was going ahead as scheduled.

Iraq had not insisted on any guarantees under the contract, he said.

The project is part of Iraq's drive to develop new export outlets for its crude oil, to replace outlets closed by its four-year-old war with Iran. New pipeline links with

Yanbu will eventually add 1.5 million barrels a day (b/d) to Iraq's present export capacity of just over one million b/d.

Senior French government officials said Spie's request for political risk coverage was under study at the industry and foreign trade ministry and a decision should be made in the coming weeks. Government sources previously had said a decision on the request was due last week.

Under consideration is whether the government wants to cover the political risk on the export portion of Spie's part of the contract, valued at about a quarter of the contract total of \$508 million.

Government and industry sources said the ministry has not yet decided whether it wants to guarantee additional risks in a country where French contractors have had serious problems with payment delays and cost overruns, most of them related to the war with Iran.

France has been Iraq's major Western supporter and arms supplier during the war and has refinanced Iraqi debts worth 12 billion francs (\$1.29 billion) since May 1983.

China surprises traders by grain export decision

WASHINGTON (R) — China's unexpected decision to export grain could signal a desire to compete with the United States for Asian and Soviet markets, Western analysts say.

China has traditionally been a major grain importer and many U.S. traders were taken by surprise when Peking began exporting this year.

Some feel that China's uncharacteristic foray into the grain-exporting business was temporary, but others say the change could be more permanent. A government specialist on China trade said Thursday night he thought China wanted to penetrate the Japanese market.

The U.S. Agriculture Department said recently that Chinese

maize exports were competing with U.S. shipments in Asia. Last week it said it believed that China made a substantial sale of soybeans to the Soviet Union this year.

Japanese traders returning from the recent Canton trade fair said China wants to export one million tonnes of maize annually to Japan. Japan has bought about 500,000 tonnes of Chinese maize so far this year, U.S. traders told Reuters.

Japanese traders said China had sold about 200,000 tonnes of maize to South Korea at \$10 to \$15 per tonne cheaper than American dealers' prices, they added. The traders also told of unconfirmed reports of Chinese maize and soybean sales to the Soviet Union.

Lebanon's two airlines to move towards merger

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's two airlines have agreed in principle to set up a joint holding company with the aim of eventually merging, Middle East Airlines (MEA) officials said Thursday.

Mr. Wafiq Ajouz, vice president in charge of public relations, told Reuters MEA and Trans Mediterranean Airlines (TMA) would initially have 75 per cent of the shares and TMA 25 per cent. MEA would eventually raise its stake to 90 per cent, he said.

MEA is a passenger airline and TMA is a freight carrier.

"We are planning to get married. We have talked about it, and now we are engaged," he said.

TMA fully supported the move, he said, adding: "Lebanon is too small for two airlines when both have problems."

The agreement in principle was signed Wednesday by TMA President Munir Abu Haidar and Mr. Roger Tamraz, chairman of Intro Investment Company, which owns

63 per cent of MEA's shares.

Both airlines suffered severe damage to their operations after Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982.

MEA was either grounded or forced to operate from Cyprus. TMA moved its operations to Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) after the 1982 war.

Asked about reports President Amin Gemayel had encouraged the airlines to merge, Mr. Ajouz said: "The president and government have always strongly supported MEA. They certainly support this action."

The government owns 44 per cent of TMA's shares.

The English-language Doherty Star Thursday quoted MEA chairman Mr. Salim Salam as saying a five-month closure of Beirut airport earlier this year cost the airline at least \$35 million, after losses in 1983 of 250 million Lebanese pounds (\$32 million).

TMA said earlier this year its losses from operations out of the UAE were some \$550,000 a month.

India to continue liberal terms to Arab investors

NEW DELHI (R) — Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee told senior Arab bankers Thursday the Indian government would continue a liberal policy to try to attract Gulf money.

Mr. Mukherjee said at a seminar attended by bankers and economists from Gulf states that India's \$280 billion five-year development plan to be launched from next year provided a good opportunity for external financing.

India had resorted to commercial borrowing to finance developmental investment and had liberalised its policy towards foreign investment, particularly from oil exporting developing countries, he said.

For instance, it did not insist that Gulf investors should bring in new technology, a condition which

other foreign investors must fulfil.

Mr. Abdul Malik Al Hamar, governor of the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates, said India and Gulf states could collaborate in joint ventures including development of alternative sources of energy and food processing.

Mr. Kamal Al Saleh, director-general of the Qatar Chamber of Commerce, said it should be noted the Gulf community was emerging from a mercantile into an industrial community.

"We should therefore talk not only of expanding India's exports but also about members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) could sell outside the region," he said.

He told Reuters Gulf countries should export fertilisers, chemicals and steel, not merely oil.

Ireland seeks action on long-term European Community unemployed

STRASBOURG (R) — The European Community's (EC's) Irish presidency is pressing for action to help long-term unemployed people who it believes run a risk of grave social and medical problems.

Irish Labour Minister Ruairi Quinn, in a speech to the European Parliament Thursday, said socially useful, paid, part-time work must be made available for all unemployed people.

While not a substitute for full-time employment within the economic sector, such activity was critically important for those who might otherwise remain unemployed for more than two years.

There is sufficient scientific evidence as well as human experience to indicate that people who are put into enforced idleness for such a long period of time develop medical and social problems for which perhaps we have no cure," he said.

Mr. Quinn announced a four-point plan for fighting the basic problems of unemployment, but said not even optimists believed the present 12.4 million unemployed total for the 10-nation group could be halved in two or three years.

This meant that a separate initiative was needed to ensure that the long-term jobless were not left permanently idle until the return of full employment.

Mr. Quinn said that in over half the community states, the proportion of unemployed who had been out of work for more than one year exceeded 33 per cent and in two countries it was around 50 per cent or higher.

To tackle the roots of the unemployment problem, Mr. Quinn suggested a community-wide programme of targeted reflation by directing public and private investment into some key sectors of the economy.

Notional and community programmes were needed to alleviate short-term unemployment in areas where industry was undergoing technical restructuring, and community aid must also be given to boost applied research into new technologies.

Mr. Quinn also urged a re-arrangement of working time to achieve a fairer distribution of

available work — "more jobs for all rather than more income for some".

The minister criticised suggestions by some commentators that western Europe could emulate U.S.-type economic growth and create millions of new jobs by dismantling hard-won worker protection legislation.

He said this was based on a simplistic comparison of the community's economy with that of the U.S. which was relatively self-sufficient, had considerable control over money markets and enjoyed greater economies of scale.

Meanwhile the European Parliament looked set to approve an emergency mini-budget for the cash-starved EC, parliamentary sources said.

Parliament's budget committee Wednesday night decided to recommend passage of the supplementary budget needed to provide 1.8 billion European Currency Units (ECUs) (\$1.3 billion) in extra funds this year for farm subsidies.

The committee accepted defeat in its fight to persuade national governments to help fill the gap by paying 1.5 billion ECUs (\$1.1 billion) in special advances — about 50 per cent more than the gov-

ernments had agreed to provide.

The committee's only act of defiance was to hold to its figure that community customs duty collections this year will raise 260 million ECUs (\$200 million) more than the council of ministers estimates.

By doing this, the legislators asserted a constitutional right, disputed by the council, to pronounce on revenue estimates as well as spending.

The committee also used its higher customs duty figure to contest government's belief that savings of 500 million ECUs (\$375 million) are needed on non-farm programmes to meet essential outlays under the common agricultural policy.

Parliamentarians say this figure can be almost halved.

The council of ministers made some small concessions to parliament in conciliation talks Wednesday.

But Irish Junior Foreign Minister Jim O'Keefe, representing the bloc's rotating presidency, said ministers had not changed the overall shape of the budget.

Mr. O'Keefe said he was confident the parliament would pass the budget in view of its vital importance for the community.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market ended the account mixed in featureless trading, dealers said. The FTSE 100 index at 1430 GMT was down 2.7 at 1,127.4 while the 1400 GMT F.T. 30 index rose 0.2 to 870.2.

Glaxo added 10p at 995. It plans to launch its "Zantac" ulcer drug in Japan. ICI returned to its overnight 676 having initially dipped to 674. Hawker Siddeley drifted 2p to 397 and Lucas dropped 3p to 233.

Government bonds recovered initial ¼ point losses helped by Morgan Guaranty's prime rate cut to 12 per cent from 12½. The government broker issued £600 million of "treasuries".

Dealers noted the £600 million of new tranches of existing bonds issued this afternoon commenced trading Monday.

Banks were easier with Barclays down 10p at 504 and Lloyds off 3p at 499, while insurances were lower with General Accident, down 7p at 471. Oils were quietly mixed with B.P. down 2p at 473 and Shell unchanged at 651.

Jaguar added 2p at 199 after 201. It denied a rumour it settled its pay dispute with the workforce.

Johnson Matthey rose 5p to 138 in continued reaction to Thursday's announcement of revised terms of the capital which is to be injected into the company.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.2203/13	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3152/57	Canadian dollars
	3.0290/0310	West German marks
	3.4165/85	Dutch guilders
	2.4885/4905	Swiss francs
	61.17/20	Belgian francs
	9.2900/3000	French francs
	1681.00/1683.00	Italian lire
	245.30/40	Japanese yen
	8.6225/6325	Swedish crowns
	8.7850/7950	Norwegian crowns
	10.9400/9500	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	338.00/338.50	U.S. dollars

Israel hikes electricity price amid pay, price freeze talks

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli parliamentary committee Thursday approved a 30 per cent rise in the cost of electricity as cabinet ministers and labour leaders continued negotiations on a wage and price freeze programme.

The giant Histadrut labour federation central committee Thursday criticised the government plan for demanding a drop in salary without a drop in prices.

Histadrut leader Mr. Israel Kesser Wednesday expressed anger at the government for slashing subsidies on basic foods and raising petrol prices by 24 per cent while

discussing a freeze programme. Thursday's electricity hike and the price rises Wednesday are expected to fuel inflation, projected to reach a world high of 800 per cent a year.

The Histadrut said it would not approve the plan in talks with the government Thursday unless it provided a genuine freeze, rather than a drop, in wages.

The federation also wants more taxes for businessmen.

The government plan calls for a wage drop of about 10-12 per cent for about six weeks.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"My doctor says I need to eat more greens. We got any lime jellybeans?"

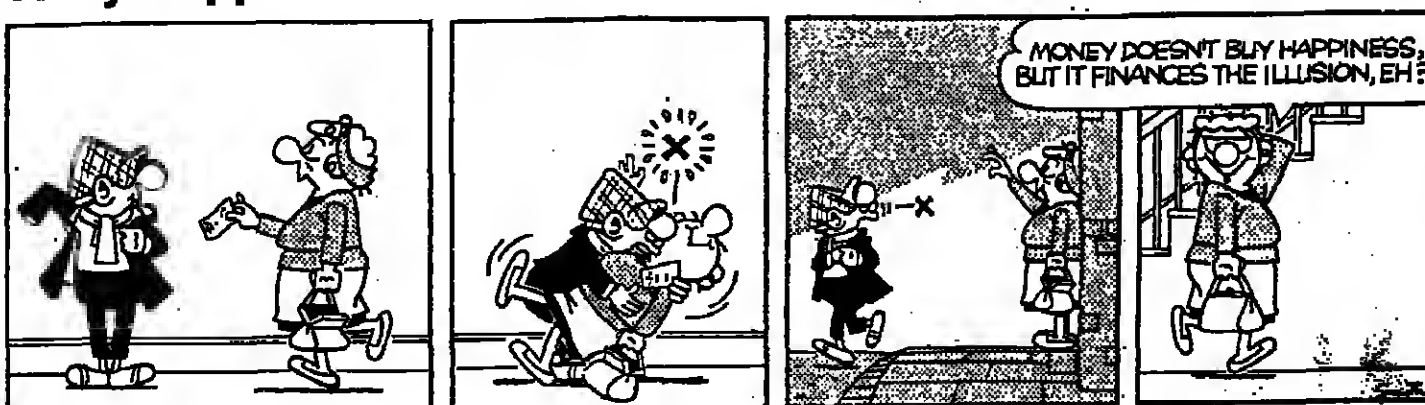
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

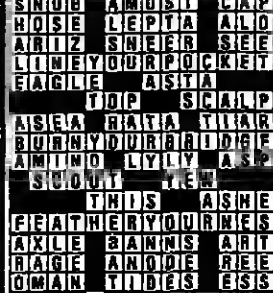


THE Daily Crossword By Mary C. Whitten



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



3 Refractor
4 Ruler of class-room days
5 Zoo denizen
6 Ready for battle
7 "But — on forever"
8 Semi-precious gem
9 San. Thurmond
10 Mod settler
11 Fundamentals song
12 Ess follower
15 Pungent style
23 A Yume
24 Extinct bird
25 Postal service
26 Confound
28 Ancient region
27 Soham
29 reflection
30 Gloomy
31 Accumulate
32 A club
33 Amo. —
34 Gr. letter
35 Sonny's sibling
36 Before eye or cam
37 "Aids" composer
38 Liquid measure
39 Chin. wax
40 Garner
41 Stopper
42 Sheltered
43 Crow sounds
44 Powe
45 Social insect
46 Bom

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Answer here: THE "JUMBLE" (Answers tomorrow)
Saturday's Jumble: SNACK FLORA JUGGLE PEPTIC
Answer: What ho who laughs last often doesn't do — GET THE JOKE

Agca was not only gunman involved in attack

Three Bulgarians, 4 Turks indicted for plot to kill Pope

ROME (R) — Italian Magistrate Ilario Martella said Friday he had committed Bulgarian Airline official Sergei Antonov and seven other people for trial on charges of conspiracy to assassinate Pope John Paul in May 1981.

Charged along with Mr. Antonov are two former officials of the Bulgarian embassy in Rome and five Turks, among them Mehmet Ali Agca, already serving life imprisonment in Italy for shooting the Pope in St. Peter's Square, Mr. Martella told reporters.

Only four of the accused are currently in detention in Italy. They are Antonov, Agca, and Turks Omar Bagci and Musa Cerdar Celebi.

The two Bulgarian embassy officials, Todor Ayzov and Jelko Kolev Vassilev, returned from Rome to Sofia before Italian authorities could ask for their diplomatic immunity to be lifted.

The two other accused are Turks Oral Celik, whose whereabouts are unknown, and Bekir Celenk, who is living under surveillance by Bulgarian authorities in Sofia.

Friday's decision by Mr. Martella, backed up by 1,243 pages of evidence, follows a 23-month investigation.

Agca, who was arrested minutes after the shooting, at first said he had acted alone. But he later told investigators he was part of a conspiracy to assassinate the Polish-

born Pontiff.

The arrest of Mr. Antonov, deputy director for Italy of the Bulgarian Airline Balkanair, has led to Western speculation that the assassination attempt was master-minded by the Bulgarian Secret Service, possibly at Soviet bidding.

Bulgaria and the Soviet Union have denied any part in the shooting.

Mr. Martella said the case had been open to political interpretation from both left and right but strongly denied that himself had any political motivation. He said he was sticking strictly to the facts.

No date has been set for the trial, at Rome Assize Court.

Mr. Martella described Agca, on whose evidence much of the case rests, as an "a typical personality". But he said there was independent evidence to back details supplied by Agca about his alleged meetings with the other accused.

The investigating magistrate said there was evidence that a third shot had been fired at the Pope at the close of his weekly audience in the Vatican Square on

May 13, 1981, apart from the two known to have been fired by Agca. Although no third bullet was found, Mr. Martella said witnesses had testified that it had been fired by another man.

American tourists photographed a man running from the scene of the shooting and Agca eventually identified him as Celik.

Mr. Antonov's arrest in Rome in November 1982 was the first result of an investigation, begun immediately after Agca's trial in 1981, to determine whether the St. Peter's Square shooting involved an international plot.

Mr. Antonov was released into house custody last January on health grounds. But two months later the Bulgarian official was ordered back to prison pending a decision on his case.

In April, State Prosecutor Antonio Albano reviewed Judge Martella's findings and concluded that the eight accused plus another Turk, Omer Mersan, should all face charges of conspiracy.

Mr. Antonov's Italian lawyers have repeatedly demanded his release on the grounds of lack of evidence.

During his investigation, Mr. Martella arranged for Agca to be brought out of prison and taken in handcuffs round St. Peter's Square and parts of Rome where he said he had met Bulgarian agents before the shooting.

BIRTH OF A SOLAR SYSTEM? Scientists released in Pasadena, California, this photograph of what they say is a possible new solar system in the early stages of formation around the star Beta Pictoris. Some 293 trillion miles from Earth's own sun, the computer-processed photograph shows a vast swarm of solid particles extending to a distance of 40 billion miles from the star. This circumstellar material, seen here as the bright flares in the upper left and lower right quadrants, appears to be composed of the materials from which the Earth and other planets of our solar system are thought to have formed (AP wirephoto)

Progress cited in anti-missile power

WASHINGTON (R) — Both the United States and the Soviet Union have made substantial progress towards the capability of destroying enemy nuclear missiles in flight, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has said.

Mr. Weinberger was not specific about the weapons involved, but he defended President Reagan's strategic defence initiative — commonly called the "Star Wars" programme — which could one day use space lasers or other weapons in space.

In a speech prepared for delivery in San Francisco, the secretary said the Pentagon is working to develop "a thoroughly reliable means of destroying Soviet nuclear missiles."

"We cannot do this yet, but we have made, very good progress," he told the city's Commonwealth Club.

He also commented that Soviet scientists had been working on anti-missile warfare since 1967 and "have made substantial progress toward their goal". Again,

he was not specific.

Defending the Star Wars programme, Mr. Weinberger said work on a system that would destroy weapons, not people, was morally right and "the most noble of the enterprises in which we are engaged."

Mr. Weinberger has said a space shuttle may be used one day in experiments preparing for the "Star Wars" defence system outside the atmosphere.

"Star Wars" defence experiments are under way in a number of different paths, involving some possible space locations," he told a press conference Wednesday.

Mr. Weinberger said the system would destroy weapons outside the earth's atmosphere by non-nuclear means and went on:

"It is a long project. There has to be much experimentation and it may well be that some will be tried from a space shuttle some day."

Asked if the climate for arms negotiations with the Soviet Union was better today than a year ago, he replied: "I would

have difficulty saying that, but we want to talk."

In remarks prepared for delivery before a civic affairs organisation in Los Angeles, Mr. Weinberger said: "I believe President Reagan will be the first president to achieve real arms reduction, not just a codification of arms ceilings."

Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme said Thursday he did not think it was possible to build an impenetrable missile defence system.

In an address marking United Nations Disarmament Week, Mr. Palme said planned new systems such as anti-satellite arms giving no advance warning of attack could increase the risk of pre-emptive strikes in times of tension.

"I do not think it will be possible to build a reliable defence system in outer space," Mr. Palme told reporters at a briefing. "It would be dangerous because it would sharpen contradictions," he added.

Poland detains 3 in kidnap of priest

WARSAW (R) — Three men, including an Interior Ministry official, have been detained in connection with the abduction of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, a popular anti-Communist Polish priest who went missing seven days ago.

As Polish police continued their search for Fr. Popieluszko, the country's Roman Catholic Church primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, condemned the kidnapping and warned believers that the 37-year-old priest might already be dead.

"Not having any signs of life from Father Popieluszko, we fear that a killing may have occurred in Poland of the kind exemplified in countries afflicted by the plague of terrorism," Glemp said in a statement Thursday.

The official media gave prominence to Glemp's words. People gathered at Fr. Popieluszko's Warsaw church said they feared this was a sign the country was being prepared for news of his death.

An Interior Ministry statement said three men, including an official named only as Grzegorz P., had been detained. It added: "Detailed information and the findings of the investigation will be publicly announced in two or three days."

Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban said Grzegorz P., whose rank has not been revealed, would be charged in connection with Fr. Popieluszko's abduction, which took place in the Torun area of northern Poland on the night of Oct. 19.

Mr. Urban said preliminary inquiries had uncovered traces of the priest's hair in the boot of Grzegorz P.'s official car. A police dog also picked up the scent of Fr. Popieluszko's driver, who escaped during the kidnapping, in the same car, Mr. Urban said.

In an earlier operation on Sept. 29 police detained 70 alleged mobsters after mafia boss Tommaso Buscetta became the first major figure in the crime organisation to turn informer.

Police said an important role in the latest raids, which began at 4 a.m. Thursday and had netted 56 people by nightfall, was played by another mafioso, Totuccio Contorno.

Contorno, 40, was arrested in 1982 but only decided to talk after hearing that Buscetta had given evidence.

He is a lesser figure than Buscetta, but like him was on the losing side in a brutal gang war that broke out between mafia clans in the early 1980's for control of the transatlantic drugs trade.

From information supplied by Buscetta and Contorno magistrates have now issued arrest warrants for nearly 500 people, about one third of them still on the run, on charges including conspiracy, drug trafficking and murder.

Soviets accuse Spain of shifting stand over NATO

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet daily Pravda accused Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez Friday of making a 180-degree turn on the issue of NATO membership and said most Spaniards wanted to get out of the alliance.

Commenting on Mr. Gonzalez's announcement this week that a referendum on NATO membership would be held in 1986, the Communist Party daily said Mr. Gonzalez had reversed his earlier demands for withdrawal under U.S. pressure.

The prime minister said on Tuesday that he favoured remaining inside the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), which Spain joined in 1982.

"This proposal by the leader of the Socialists is like a 180-degree turnaround. Before the last elections he was decisively against any Spanish participation in the North Atlantic alliance," Pravda said.

Western diplomats said the commentary was the opening shot

in what was likely to be a long Soviet media campaign to persuade Spaniards to vote against NATO membership in the referendum.

Pravda said it was clear that Mr. Gonzalez had adopted a view in support of continued membership "under pressure and cajoling from the top NATO leaders headed by the U.S."

"It is utterly clear that this does not respond to the wishes of the Spanish nation, which is in favour of continuing the country's policy of real neutrality and independence, strengthening peace and détente," it said.

Pravda said recent surveys had shown that only 13 per cent of Spaniards wanted to remain in NATO and nearly 60 per cent wanted to get out.

The Soviet Union mounted a strong campaign against Spain's original decision to join NATO and went as far as issuing a formal warning in August 1981 that it would consider taking "counter-measures" against Madrid.

China introduces private medicine

PEKING (R) — Peking has given the go-ahead for the introduction of widespread private medicine as a supplement to the chronically over-stretched state health system in the latest of China's radical reforms.

Public Health Minister Cui Yueli said in a signed article published in Peking's Guangming Daily that local collectives and individuals were now authorised to open medical businesses and make a profit from them.

The move is designed to help fill large gaps in the creaking and underfinanced state system, which cannot provide enough hospital beds or doctors for the country's one billion people.

The minister said the government would actively encourage

small towns, collectively-owned businesses, retired doctors and medical workers to set up drug stores and clinics.

The article, published Thursday, was the main front-page story of Friday's China Daily newspaper.

Medical staff in state-run institutions that were adequately manned could start private businesses while retaining the right to return to their original posts, he said.

It marked the latest in a series of far-reaching reforms announced this month designed to reduce the role of the state in economic planning, shake up industry, cut large state subsidies and gradually allow market forces greater rein.

Bolivian president on hunger strike

LA PAZ (R) — Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo has begun a hunger strike for national unity after coming under fire in parliament for an alleged link with drug traffickers.

The president's announcement on nationwide radio and television Thursday night followed a congress resolution which ordered an inquiry into contacts between a top anti-drugs official and Roberto Suarez Gomez, known as "the cocaine king" of Bolivia's lucrative drugs trade.

Rafael Otao, head of the Anti-Narcotics Council, said in August he had met Mr. Suarez Gomez on the president's instructions. Mr. Siles Zuazo has denied this, but the congress resolution on Wednesday night said the president had "presumably authorised illegal acts..." (which) could have made Bolivia a criminal state."

Shortly before Siles Zuazo announced his fast, state-run television aired warnings that democracy was in jeopardy and asked Bolivians to stand by the president. It did not elaborate.

Mr. Siles Zuazo, 71, sworn in two years ago after nearly two decades of military rule, described the congress resolution as "a deceitful manipulation to cover the president with infamy."

"Our opponents need much more than drug-trafficking to dent our dignity... our conscience is at peace," he said.

He pledged to remain on hunger strike in his office and conduct official business from there "until peace and understanding among Bolivians are re-established." He did not say how this would be gauged.

"(The fast) in the late stage of my life is a show of commitment to the people," he said.

Opposition mounts fresh attack on Marcos

MANILA (R) — Philippine opposition leaders mounted a fresh attack on President Ferdinand Marcos Friday, saying he had virtually absolved military chief Gen. Fabian Ver of a role in the murder of former Sen. Benigno Aquino.

Most members of a commission which investigated the murder said two days ago that Gen. Ver, two lower-ranking generals, 22 soldiers and a businessman were "indictable for the premeditated killing."

The chairman of the opposition PDP-Laban Party, Aquilino Pimentel, said remarks by Mr. Marcos made "impossible any trial of Ver that will be fair to the people."

He was referring Mr. Marcos's comments in a letter to Gen. Ver that the commission's findings were "fraught with doubt and great contradiction of opinion."

China introduces private medicine

The Soviet Union has criticised the reforms, citing predictions that they would undermine Communist ideology and lead to inflation and unemployment. The sweeping changes were announced after a meeting of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee.

The minister said that allowing private medical practice was the main way of improving the thinly stretched health network. Often in the countryside peasants have to go a long way to get medical care.

The government has permitted private medicine on a small scale in the past, but the latest announcement gave the go-ahead for it to become much more widespread.

He said the 44-page document, entitled "psychological operations in guerrilla warfare," described how to carry out "assassinations, kidnappings, assaults and other criminal activities" that contravened international law and that of the United States itself.

Mr. Chamorro said the handbook had been widely condemned in the United States and in the international community, and had been rejected by many American congressmen.

COLUMN

Jihan Sadat to teach at U.S. university

WASHINGTON (R) — Jihan Sadat, the wife of assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, will teach at the American University here during next year's spring term, the university announced Thursday. It said Mrs. Sadat would conduct bi-weekly seminars on "Women in the Changing World." Betty Ford, wife of former President Gerald Ford, would be the first speaker at the seminars, it said. Mrs. Ford, treated for alcohol and drug abuse after leaving the White House, has campaigned since for a greater awareness of such problems.

12-year-old gives birth to a girl

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — A 12-year-old girl has given birth to a girl who weighed 1,950 grammes, the Belgrade daily Vecernje Novosti reported Thursday. "Both the baby and the mother feel well," Milica Suvajac, the chief nurse of a hospital in Subotica, a city on the Yugoslav-Hungarian border, was quoted by the newspaper as saying. The mother's name and other details were not given. Earlier this month, an 11-year-old gypsy girl gave birth to a healthy boy in Serbia, authorities reported.

Bhutto gets residence permit in Switzerland

Berne (R) — Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, daughter of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, has been allowed to take up residence in Switzerland, a spokesman for the Justice Ministry has said. He said the residence permit, issued by the Geneva canton authorities last week, was valid until next February, when it would become subject to review. The spokesman said he believed Ms. Bhutto was already living in Switzerland.

Man arrested for threatening Ferraro

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — A man who said he was going to pretend to be Robin Hood was arrested Thursday on charges of threatening to shoot Geraldine Ferraro with a bow and arrow, the U.S. secret service said. A spokesman said Larry Charon, 36, a maintenance worker at the Apple Computer Company, is alleged to have made the threat against the Democratic vice-presidential candidate while talking to a fellow worker. The worker tipped police, and Charon was arrested before Ms. Ferraro made a campaign appearance Thursday at Apple, in Cupertino, south of San Francisco. According to court documents, two bows and numerous arrows were found in Charon's car. The documents said Charon admitted he was going to use his "bow and shoot her with an arrow and pretend to be Robin Hood."

3 shot during kidnap attempt

UDINE, Italy (R) — Three people were shot dead Thursday night during an attempt to kidnap the son of Italian kitchen equipment magnate Rino Snaidero, police said. The kidnap target, Roberto Snaidero, was unharmed in the shooting which broke out after Carabinieri para-military police intercepted the kidnappers' car, they said. Roberto Snaidero is an executive of the firm, which has branches in Paris, Frankfurt and London and a production centre in Toronto.

Sexual assault case dropped against U.K. politician

LONDON (R) — The case brought against a British member of parliament accused of making indecent advances to a plainclothes policeman was dropped Thursday. Keith Hampson, 41, quit his post as aide to Defence Minister Michael Heseltine after he was arrested in a London homosexual strip club last May. At his trial last week Mr. Hampson denied accusations of fondling the policeman. The jury failed to reach a verdict and the judge questioned whether a fair re-trial would be possible after the publicity given the case. At a hearing Thursday the prosecution offered no evidence and the judge directed that a verdict of not guilty be entered.

EC to bolster Ethiopia famine aid

BRUSSELS (R) — An international rescue effort for famine-hit Ethiopia gained momentum with the European Community expected to join a sea and airlift of aid supplies.

With as many as 900,000 Ethiopians facing death by starvation, relief agency leaders met officials of the European Commission, the executive arm of the 10-nation Community, to discuss the most urgent needs.

Diplomats said development ministers of the 10-nation group agreed Thursday to discuss improvements in coordination of aid by member countries to Ethiopia at a special meeting in Brussels on Nov. 6.

Relief agencies expect next month's harvest in Ethiopia to be the worst in 20 years and say the crisis requires more aid and quicker delivery than the community had planned.

Community officials said they expected the despatch of 25,000 tonnes of emergency food aid to be approved next week as well as cash to help speed-up distribution within Ethiopia, which has been hampered by serious transport difficulties.

Ethiopia is using two Soviet-built aircraft and Western diplomats said Washington was paying for the fuel.

U.S. aid officials said Washington was sending nearly \$40 million worth of grain and over \$6 million to help with transport costs.

Britain said Wednesday it was sending about 26,000 tonnes of grain to Ethiopia and other drought-ridden areas of Africa. France said Thursday it was sending Ethiopia 1,500 tonnes of grain.

West Germany is giving 10 million marks (\$3.3 million) in immediate aid, according to officials in Bonn.

Private relief agencies have asked Western nations to supply between 20 and 30 large transport aircraft. The Netherlands said Thursday it will be providing a Hercules transport plane.

Candy crooks start new type of crime

TOKYO (R) — Japan's poison candy crooks are pioneering a dangerous new type of extortion which police find hard to combat and which could be all too easy to copy.

Most of the dangers of conventional extortion for criminals are removed from the case in which the Morinaga Confectionery Company is being told to pay \$400,000 or else see its wares poisoned and placed on store shelves.

For the gang there are none of

the physical risks that go with kidnapping or with meeting out violence in the protection racket. All that is needed is a ransom letter to the company selected as victim with copies sent to newspapers and television stations.

In Morinaga's case the publicity sent sales diving by 30 per cent as mothers in their thousands warned children off its sweets. Despite this, Morinaga refused to pay the ransom.

"It is an extremely vicious dirty crime, tantamount to taking the

national hostage," a police spokesman told Reuters. "We have no easy solution because it is a completely new type of crime in Japan."

In conventional crime the clear-up rate by Japanese police is high. The spokesman said that last year 60 per cent of all cases were solved, while for murder, rape and serious violence the rate went up to 87.5 per cent.

"But this is something new," the spokesman said. "It is a crime easy to imitate because placing a few packets of poisoned food in shops is no problem. We must hunt down the gang and show this type of crime doesn't pay or else it may soon spread."

Italy rounds up 56 new mafia suspects

PALERMO, Sicily (R) — Italian police have rounded up 50 mafia suspects following the second time within weeks that a "mafioso" has broken the traditional code of silence within the organised crime network and talked to police.

In an earlier operation on Sept. 29 police detained 70 alleged mobsters after mafia boss Tommaso Buscetta became the first major figure in the crime organisation to turn informer.

Police said an important role in the latest raids, which began at 4 a.m. Thursday and had netted 56 people by nightfall, was played by another mafioso, Totuccio Contorno.

Contorno, 40, was arrested in 1982 but only decided to talk after hearing that Buscetta had given evidence.

He is a lesser figure than Buscetta, but like him was on the losing side in a brutal gang war that broke out between mafia clans in the early 1980's for control of the transatlantic drugs trade.

From information supplied by Buscetta and Contorno magistrates have now issued arrest warrants for nearly 500 people, about one third of them still on the run, on charges including conspiracy, drug trafficking and murder.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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PUTTING OPPONENTS' SIGNALS TO USE

Both vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♦ 9
♥ Q107
♦ Q754
♠ A10875

WEST
♦ Q82
♥ J843
♦ 10886
♠ 2

EAST
♦ AK753
♥ AK5
♦ KJ3
♠ 93

SOUTH
♦ J1064
♥ 62
♦ A2
♠ KQJ64

The bidding:

East South West North
1♦ Pass Pass Dble
Rdble 3♦ 3♦ Pass
Pass Dble Pass 4♦
Dble Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♠.

It is important that you know and understand the methods being used by your opponents. Once in a while the chance will come along for you to take advantage of an opponent's signal. Watch Peter Weichsel of Miami Beach, Fla., in action during the Men's Pairs event at the recent Spring North American Championships in San Antonio, Texas which he won with Mike Lawrence of Kensington, Calif.

North, Lawrence, decided that he could not sit for three

spades doubled—he had too much length and his only defensive trick was in the suit bid by his partner. East doubled four clubs with some degree of confidence.

West led the ten of diamonds, and when dummy appeared it seemed that declarer would have to lose a spade, two hearts and a diamond. However, East made a slight error at trick one—instead of playing his jack of diamonds after declarer played low from dummy, he followed with the three.

East-West were using "upside-down" discards—a low card was encouraging and high card discouraging. So instead of winning the trick, Weichsel smoothly followed suit with the two. From West's point of view, his partner had encouraged strongly by playing the lowest card possible, so he continued with a diamond.

Declarer won the ace, crossed to the table with a trump and ruffed a diamond high to fell the king. He returned to the board with a trump, discarded a heart on the queen of diamonds and gladly conceded a trick in each major—he still had two trumps in hand to take care of dummy's heart losers.